

The Muscogee Nation News

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January 1993, 8 Pages

Elected, traditional chiefs confer at leaders' summit

Historic meeting to be first of many

OKMULGEE — It was billed as the first meeting of elected and traditional chiefs since the last century.

Principal Chief Bill Fife called a tribal leaders' summit Dec. 12 at the tribal capitol complex. It was estimated that more than 100 representatives from 25 ceremonial grounds met with Fife, second chief Shelly Crow, and other administration officials. The summit was moderated by tribal Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac.

The meeting was organized by tribal policy analyst Eddie LaGrone.

"I thought it was a very positive meeting environment with positive participation and the general response afterward was that [the summit] was a very good thing."

LaGrone said the Fife administration is trying to solicit input regarding needs and existing conditions at the leaders' grounds. Fostering improved relations



photo by Gerald Wofford

Creek Nation Head Start children perform Christmas songs at their holiday program.

with traditional leaders was a part of Fife's campaign platform.

Much of the discussion was centered on land tenure, health and language preservation, traditional representation at all levels, and the autonomy of the

grounds.

Fife told the leaders that he would continue to meet with them and suggested that all groups participate in the governmental operations of the tribe. Fife said the next meeting may take place in March.

Second speaker named executive director

OKMULGEE — Jerry Wilson has been confirmed as executive director for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal administration.

Wilson, 40, was nominated for the tribe's top non-elected position by Principal Chief Bill Fife and confirmed by the National Council. In his nominating letter Fife wrote, "my work, as Principal Chief, is saturated with administrative duties rather than Principal Chief functions which prohibits effective tribal government development and structure. If we are to continue to progress, we need Wilson as the tribe's top executive officer."



Wilson

at Creek Nation today. Additionally, he was the first editor of the tribal monthly, *The Muscogee Nation News*.

Wilson, of Glenpool, resigned his seat as a Tulsa District representative to the tribal National Council to assume the position as director of administration.

As a representative, Wilson served on various committees and has authored numerous pieces of legislation; he was instrumental in developing the tribe's budgeting process. He was chosen second speaker of the Council for the 1992-93 legislative term.

Most recently, Wilson was also the chair of the small business occupations department at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee. He has since resigned that position.

As director of administration, Wilson will be responsible for the majority of the day-to-day operations of the tribe and will work directly with the executive office.

Wilson said the decision to leave OSU-Okmulgee was difficult.

Creek Nation on schedule with plans of self-governance

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is on schedule with its plans for self-governance, says Eddie LaGrone, policy analyst for the tribe.

The Creek Nation is one of 30 tribes that made an application with the U.S. Department of Interior to begin self-governance. Through provisions of Public Law 100-472, selected tribes can contract, develop, and implement programs that are administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

"Basically, a tribe can redesign programs, and eliminate or create others, to be appropriate for specific tribal needs," LaGrone said.

The Creek Nation presently contracts many federal programs through the provisions of P.L. 93-638. P.L. 100-472, though similar, has significant differences, LaGrone said.

"[Administering programs] under 93-638, the tribes shadow the bureau's programs," LaGrone

Principal chief has favorable outlook for new year

by Bill Fife, principal chief

Nineteen ninety-two has been an exciting year. We have had many changes and improvements here at the capitol complex, with even greater progress expected in 1993.

As I reflect on the past few months, I am encouraged about the potential of the new year. The alliance the National Council and I have formed has made us partners for progress. Even though we may not agree on every issue, we will still come together for the good of Creek people. As I see it, we are all trustees for Creek citizens, custodians of the Muscogee heritage.

For the future, I want each and every citizen to know that I am obligated to helping the National Council fulfill our tribe's hope in reestablishing our own faith in each other. Nineteen ninety-three is the year for the Creek Nation to accomplish more — to translate the integrity of our goals into the fulfillment of our tribal mission.

To each of you, I wish the best in the year ahead. May the Creator watch over you and your loved ones.

The MNN announces adjustments, changes production deadlines

by Gerald Wofford

Publication of the November and December issues of *The Muscogee Nation News* was delayed. To correct production complications of the tribal newspaper, the communications department has been reorganized.

The Muscogee Nation News will change its production deadlines to the first of the month in order to release the paper during the first week of every month. Insuring events that affect tribal government and its citizens are read in a timely and consistent manner is an important department objective.

Though the department has been reorganized, it is still incumbent on communities, grounds, churches, and citizens, to cooperate in getting information to the department in a timely manner for publication in *The Muscogee Nation News*. It's a two-way street — the department needs your help for it to help you.

Again, we regret any inconvenience caused by production delays.

Clarification

The report regarding the Muscogee (Creek) National Council approval of the super collider project bill (NCA 92-172) listed incorrectly those representatives rejecting the measure. Helen Chupco, Muskogee District; Wilson Bear, McIntosh District; and Don Cahwee, Tulsa District all voted for the bill. Those opposed to the bill were: Clarence Cloud and Earl Wheeler, Creek District; Sandy McIntosh and Tommy Newton, McIntosh District; Judy Roberts, Okfuskee District; Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee District; and Irene Cleghorn and Okema Randall, Tulsa District.

Letters to the editor

Representative wants jobs given to needy

Editor:

This is a letter in behalf of many tribal citizens that are unemployed. Why are we still hiring retired people that have good retirement incomes and in some cases, [with] their wives still employed. The retirees don't have the worry or expense of sending children to school and providing the needs of children.

I am sure that out of [more than] 30,000 Creek citizens, there are many qualified people to hold many positions within the Creek Nation.

Retirees: let's retire and give the jobs to the young adults with families.

Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Litsey is an Okmulgee District representative to the tribal National Council.

Tulsa representative says thanks

Editor:

I'd like to take the opportunity to wish all Creek-Yuchi citizens prosperity in the new year. I especially want to thank my Tulsa District constituents who have been very supportive of my efforts to work for the betterment of the tribe. Thank you and God bless you.

Don Cahwee, Glenpool

Editor's note: Cahwee is a first-term Tulsa district representative to the tribal National Council.

Tribe, Tulsa University cooperate for benefits

by Shelly Crow, second chief

Recently, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has networked with the University of Tulsa to serve our people — it has been a win-win situation.

Tulsa nursing students, under the direction of my instruction, provided physical examinations of Creek Nation Head Start students. In the past, this service was contracted with a physician. The tribe saved nearly \$8,000.

The nursing students gained valuable practical experience. Nursing students also did a clinic rotation with the Sapulpa Indian Health Center. Senior nursing students developed a recipe book for preparing low calorie, low sodium, low fat, low cholesterol, low sugar, and high fiber meals. These were presented to the Sapulpa Indian Health Center. This fulfilled their community project requirements.

The physical education project group presented the Sapulpa Indian Health Center with a television.

The National Council and the Principal Chief's office is acknowledging the TU nursing students for their endeavors to work with the tribe and learning the Creek culture in order to better serve their citizens' health needs.

This is one of the many good things that has happened in 1992. Each student carried a patient for eight weeks — patients that are normally not served because of the overloaded public health nurses. These students worked with other agencies such as tribal community health representatives, elderly nutrition, and others.

**The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications department
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447**

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News, a member of the Native American Journalists Association, is a monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Offices are one mile north of Okmulgee, Okla., in the tribal capitol complex. *The Muscogee Nation News* is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, or the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of each month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed free to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. For all others, the subscription rate is \$12 per year. Change of address corrections are requested. Additional copies are available for 25 cents apiece.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed bulk rate from Okmulgee, Okla.

Communications department

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Administrative assistant: Anita Freeman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal leaders

Principal Chief: Bill Fife

Second Chief: Shelly Crow

National Council Speaker: Clarence Cloud

N.C. Second Speaker: Jerry Wilson

The Muscogee Nation News radio network

Aired weekly as a public service on these radio stations (times subject to change at the station's discretion):

KOKL-Okmulgee, am 1240, Thursday, 12:40 p.m.

KCES-Eufaula, fm 102.3, Friday, 8 a.m., Saturday, 4:30 p.m.

KRAF-Holdenville, 1370, Saturday, 3 p.m.

KMMY-Muskogee, fm 97.1, Sunday, 8 a.m.

KTRT-Wagoner, fm 102.1, Sunday, 8 a.m.

KTRT-Tulsa, am 1270, Sunday, 9:15 a.m.

KDLB-Henryetta, am 1590, Sunday, 9:15 a.m.

KVAZ-Henryetta, fm 91.5, Sunday, 2:30 p.m.

KTLQ-Tahlequah, am 1350, Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

KNGX-Clairemore, fm 91.3, Sunday, 3 p.m.

KGFF-Shawnee, am 1450, Saturday, 6:20 a.m.

KADA-Ada, am 1230, Sunday, 11:15 a.m.

KUSH-Cushing, am 1600, Saturday, Sunday, 12:30 p.m.

Awarded for general excellence by the Native American Journalists Association.

Tribe wins grant to build new facility

Multi-purpose facility first of its kind for Creek Nation

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been awarded a \$700,000 grant to build a multi-purpose facility at the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee.

The tribe received notice of the award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in late December. The building will be the first multi-purpose facility built on the complex at Okmulgee since the construction of the independent agencies (mound) building in 1979. The last addition to the grounds was the commodity food distribution warehouse, built in 1990. The facility is expected to house an elders' nutrition center, space for Head Start, adult education, a library, a wellness center, and other offices.

The building is to be utilized for increasing education levels, improving nutrition and health

practices, developing social and academic readiness for young Indians, strengthening tribal identity, and centralizing tribal resource materials.

"Several Creek citizens mentioned that by building a facility to support long-term development of our Creek people, the Creek Nation as a whole would benefit even more," said Bill Fife, principal chief.

"We decided to combine distinct populations and functions in this facility to enhance and complement future development of the tribe, as well as meet the funding criteria of HUD."

Other programs are expected to contribute funds to the construction project.

Fife said the facility addresses a major problem — lack of adequate building space for direct services to clients.

"It was our intent to design a building which could be practical, attractive, and complement our existing architecture as well," Fife said. "Additionally, the facility will increase the amount of space for services significantly."

The building will include 21,264 square feet of floor space.

Council places Holdenville bingo hall under gaming board

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council placed the Holdenville Indian Community bingo project under the tribe's gaming board at its November session held at the tribal capitol complex.

The 31-member tribal legislature also appropriated \$43,000 from the bingo revenue account to complete the start-up costs for the project.

The 1990-91 National Council approved the construction of the Holdenville bingo operation in 1991. The original bill allowed the community to manage the hall.

Internal disputes over the use of funds and community civil disputes contributed to delays in development.

Under provisions of the bill, the tribe will receive 70 percent of the net revenue from the operation to the community's 30 percent. The legislation also allows the community to assume management responsibility for the bingo operation at an unspecified later date.

Voting against the bill: (representative, followed by district) Sandy McIntosh, McIntosh; Irene Cleghorn and Okema Randall, Tulsa. Absent: Clarence Cloud, Creek; Tommy Newton, McIntosh; Mae Jackson, Okfuskee; George Tiger, Okmulgee; and Alexander Thomas, Wagoner. Conducting the meeting was Jerry Wilson, Tulsa.

In other business, the Council.

—approved a resolution rejecting the Bureau of Indian Affairs' plan for reconciliation and audit of trust funds. **Voting against the resolution:** Wynema Roberts, Okfuskee;

Tribe to administer low income energy assistance program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Community Services will be providing energy assistance to those meeting eligibility requirements through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

The amount of assistance will be based on the number of individuals residing within each household. Assistance will also be determined by total household income.

To be eligible for the program, applicants should provide the following information on site:

- a certificate degree of Indian blood card;
- verification that income is within program guidelines;
- verification of residency within Creek Nation boundaries; and
- a completed and signed application form.

Individuals are permitted to have someone apply on their behalf - upon presentation of a signed consent statement.

Applicants may complete applications at respective following districts sites:

- Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center, 9 a.m. to noon, Jan. 18, just north of U.S. Highway 75 and 141st St.;
- Bristow Indian Community Center, 2 to 4 p.m., Jan. 18, 121 W. Lincoln;
- Okmulgee Indian Community Center, 9 a.m. to noon, Jan. 19, one-fourth a mile east of U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 2 to 4 p.m., Jan. 19, 806 W. Forest Ave.;
- Wetumka Indian Community Center, 9 a.m. to noon, Jan. 20, 608 N. Creek;
- Okemah Indian Community Center, 2 to 4 p.m., Jan. 20, two blocks south of Interstate 40 on state highway 27; and
- Muskogee Indian Community Center, 10 a.m. to noon, Jan. 22, 111 S. Virginia.

For more information, call the social services department at (918) 756-8700.

Diabetic support group organized in Okmulgee

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representative Office began holding monthly diabetic support group meetings in November.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 21. In February, meetings will be held on the last Thursday of the month. For more information, call the CHR office at (918) 756-8700.

The meetings are held at Okmulgee Indian Community Center. The center is located one-fourth of a mile east of U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Tribal affairs briefs

Harjo wins special election

OKMULGEE — Jim B. Harjo defeated Emanuel Morgan in a Dec. 5 special election for Okmulgee District representative to the National Council.

Harjo, of Okmulgee, said he was surprised with his vote total.

"I'm overwhelmed by the support I received. I intend to be a conscientious representative and not forget the people who put me in office."

Harjo was sworn in at the Council's December session.

He will complete the term of former Okmulgee District representative George Almerigi who resigned to become an assistant tribal attorney general.



Harjo

Tulsa District special election set

OKMULGEE — A special election has been called to fill a vacancy for Tulsa District representative to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

The vacancy was created when four-term representative Jerry Wilson of Glenpool, resigned his seat to become the tribe's executive director. Tribal law prohibits elected officials from simultaneous tribal employment.

The filing period for Tulsa District rep. seat D was Jan. 11 through 13, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The primary election is scheduled Feb. 20, with a general election, if necessary, April 3. Tulsa District precinct locations are: The Tulsa Indian Community, 6363 E. 31st, suite 105; and Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center, one block north of U.S. Highway 75 and 141st St.

Oklahoma City starts building fund drive with language tapes

OCMA utilizes language tapes as fundraiser

• For a donation of \$25 to the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association building fund, the organization will send donors community-produced Mvskoke language tapes. The audio tape, "Beginning Creek," is accompanied by a five-lesson book. Community chair Rufus "Buddy" Cox said the tape consists of vocabulary — approximately 500 Creek words — with English to Mvskoke translation and correct pronunciation. Cox said the taping is narrated by Thewarle Baptist Church Deacon George Bunny. It is a project of the association's Creek language and building fund committees, he said. The fundraising project was innovated because the organization has been unable to obtain tribal funding for a building, Cox said. All money received will be contributed to the association's building fund, he added.

"It's an opportunity for all Creeks to work together to help us get a building and promote the Mvskoke language as well," Cox said.

Cox said he would like to thank the Creek Nation communications department for providing technical assistance recording the tapes.

Individuals interested in making a donation and obtaining tapes may send a money order to: Oklahoma City (Muscogee) Creek Association, P.O. Box 19892, Oklahoma City, OK 73144-0892. Cox said money order transactions are preferred.

• Two board members recently resigned. Board member Helen Burgess resigned during the December regular meeting. Vice-chair John Proctor submitted his resignation at the January regular meeting. Proctor resigned previous to his recent relocation to Wetumka. The board has recommended Judy Harwell and Clarence Walter fill two board seats temporarily. Members will vote to fill the vice-chair office at 7 p.m., Feb. 2 - a regular meeting.

• The association held its Christmas dinner in mid-December with 200 people attending, Harwell said.

Checotah Indian community opens giftshop

• Checotah Indian Community opened a giftshop in early December. Its hours are from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The gift shop is located in the community center at 998 Maple.

• The community officers and board of directors have formed a policy and procedures board. The board made recommendations regarding community policy and procedure at its January regular meeting.

• A Christmas party for community children was held in late December. The community participated in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration's angel tree project. An angel tree was set up in the bingo hall. Community members selected angels with the names of needy Creek children and purchased gifts for them, community reporter Cheryl Bear said.

Glenpool holds New Year's Eve stompdance

• Glenpool Creek Indian Community member James Proctor and the community held a New Year's Eve stompdance.

• The community held Christmas parties for its children and elders and also provided Christmas food baskets to several needy Indian families.

Kellyville places in city Christmas parade

• Kellyville Indian Community placed third in the adult category of the City of Kellyville Christmas parade. The parade theme was "Christmas in Candyland." Also among community holiday activities was a Christmas party for community children. The community's Thanksgiving dinner drew an attendance of 100, reporter Christine

Reeder said.

• Winning the November and December regular meeting doorprizes were Martha and Roman Watashe.

• Special guest speaker Carolyn Bigpond, tribal children and family services administration, recently spoke at the January regular meeting, Reeder said.

Tulsa Creeks publishing community newsletter

• Tulsa Creek Indian Community has published the first issue of its community newsletter. The newsletter, an experimental project, was distributed in January. *The TCIC Communiqué* will be published on a monthly basis, chair Norma Posey said. Community secretary Irene VanBuskirk said the newsletter will be sent with the monthly community mailout.

• The community has changed its monthly meeting date from the first Tuesday of each month to the third Wednesday of each month. The meeting time remains at 6:30 p.m.

• The community has initiated a membership drive for January. Posey said the drive will concentrate on soliciting young adults for membership. The community board is also encouraging members to bring a guest to meetings or offer transportation to Creek elders.

• The community recently packed and distributed 25 sack lunches to walkers who participated in a retracement of the Trail of Tears walk organized by the indigenous organization, Echoes of the People.

• The community held its Christmas dinner at the East Center Young Women's Christian Association in late December and nearly 200 people attended, Posey said. Fruit and candy sacks were given to those in attendance. All attending children received Christmas presents. Posey said excess Christmas sacks and toys were donated to a local church.

• The community opened its smokeshop in late November. The smokeshop is located at 81st and Riverside, just north of Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo. Smokeshop hours are from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday. It will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. The smokeshop general manager is Bonnie Gibson. Clerks are Barbara Scott and Donna Bryd; Newman Childers is a part-time assistant clerk.

• A representative from the tribal social services department will be assisting community members in obtaining services. A department representative will be at the community office on the third Thursday of each month from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

• Oklahoma Indian Legal Services attorney Ange Hamilton will be assisting members with legal needs. Hamilton will be at the office from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. The community office is located at 6363 E. 31st, Suite 105.

• For more information on activities or services, call the community office at 832-7062.

Holdenville offers support to local Creek children

• Holdenville Indian Community offered support to local Creek children by displaying an angel tree at its center. Community members selected angels labeled with names of Creek youth and purchased gifts for them. The angel tree consisted of names of Creek children attending the following schools: Parkview Elementary, Holdenville; Thomas Elementary; Holdenville; Twin Rivers Head Start, Holdenville; and Yeager Head Start, Yeager community. The community also held an early Christmas dinner for its members.

Okmulgee to open second smokeshop in late January

• The opening of a second Okmulgee Indian Community smokeshop is anticipated in late January, community chair

Bernice Hale said. The smokeshop license was approved Dec. 24, Hale said. The smokeshop facility is located at 1507 S. Wood Drive. It was formerly owned by Kialegee Tribal Town and operated under the name of Running Wolfe Smokeshop.

• Hale said the community will hold its annual membership meeting at 7 p.m., Feb. 8, also the regular meeting date. The meeting will entail the update of the community registrar. Hale encouraged all active and inactive community members to attend.

• Because of damaged and unreturned community tables and chairs, the community will no longer loan them for use, Hale said.

• The community held a Christmas dinner for members during its December regular meeting.

Muskogee Indian Community grants bid for smokeshop

• Muskogee Indian Community has accepted Creek Nation Construction and Development Company's bid for the construction of its new smokeshop. The smokeshop will be built on the tribe's new Muskogee bingo facility site — at U.S. Highway 69 and Peak Boulevard. Community treasurer Melissa Napier said the tentative smokeshop opening date is March 15, weather permitting.

• The community wishes all a prosperous new year, Napier said.

• Muskogee District representative Helen Chupco installed new community officers at its December regular meeting. Officers are: Rita Tiger, chair; Sally King, vice-chair; Phyllis Wallace, secretary; Melissa Napier, treasurer; John Tiger, sergeant-at-arms; and Rev. Lee Chupco, chaplain.

• The community held a food sale at the City of Muskogee's 14 Flags Festival in November.

Dewar closes smokeshop operation temporarily

• Because of the uncertainty of a state law's affect on tribal smokeshops, Dewar Indian Community closed its operation Jan. 15. Secretary Eliza Mae Hicks said the smokeshop will be reopened one month to six weeks from the closing date.

• The community held a bingo game and Christmas dinners for its community members and its elders in mid-December. Attending elders exchanged gifts at the celebration.

• The community wishes all Creek citizens a happy New Year, Hicks said.

Dustin Indian community elects officers

• Dustin Indian Community recently held an election for community officers. Elected officers are: chair, Tim Fife; vice-chair, Bruce Smith; treasurer, James Roberts; secretary, Robin Fife; and parliamentarian, Brian Fife.

• Ms. Fife said the community extends its appreciation to Hughes-Seminole District Council representative Charlie Franks for donating a crate of apples that were distributed to community members during the Christmas season.

Yardeka plans Valentine's Day activities

• Yardeka Indian Community has several Valentine's Day activities scheduled on Feb. 6.

• At 6 p.m. a food sale will begin. A community candy bingo game to be held at 7 p.m. Valentine's Day king and queen contests will be held for both elders and children — ages newborn to five — is among the evening's activities. Community members may obtain more information by calling the smokeshop at 652-2476. A celebration of January and February community birthdays will complete

Activities plentiful throughout Creek Nation boundaries

continued from page 4

the evening's events. The center is located eight and one-half miles south of Henryetta on Lake Road.

- The community held its Christmas dinner in late December.

- The vacant offices of secretary and treasurer were filled by Elizabeth Shipley and Rocky Pigeon at the November regular meeting.

Bristow makes plans for block grant

- Bristow Indian Community received \$20,000 in community development block grant monies from the tribal Council in December.

Among things the grant will be utilized for are: outside ramps and bathroom rails for community elders; a community youth program; and a fund to support community high schoolers in extracurricular endeavors, community chair Judy Riley said. The community has also purchased a hot water tank and ice machine for the center, Riley said.

- The community recently participated in the City of Bristow's annual Christmas parade. The year's theme was "Route 66."

- Around 120 attended the community's Christmas program. Candy sack distribution and a toy giveaway were among program activities. Riley commended Bristow elderly nutrition program cooks Ethelene Conley and Ruby Johnson for preparing an "excellent" dinner for the elders.

Wetumka schedules election of officers

- Wetumka Indian Community will hold an election of officers at its February regular meeting. The regular meeting will be held at 7 p.m., Feb. 1.

- Wetumka High School Indian Club and Yeager Head Start youth recently entertained community elders at their Christmas dinner. The high schoolers held a reading of Indian poetry and the children performed a double header stompdance. The elders also exchanged gifts. Ninety people attended, chair Francis Hicks said.

Twin Hills accepting bids on former community office

- Twin Hills Indian Community is accepting bids on a mobile structure formerly used as its community office. The highest bidder will receive the bid and be responsible for its removal. The structure is on tribal property, located 10 miles east of U.S. Highway 75 on state highway 16 to the Bixby Road and north five miles. Take the east fork in the road two and one-half miles, then drive one mile north. For more information, call community chair Gary Hudgens at 756-6252.

Sapulpa reports holiday activity attendance

- Sapulpa Indian Community held a Christmas dinner with an attendance of 200 in December.

- Seventy-five attended the community's Thanksgiving dinner, community secretary Phyllis Warrington reported.

Beggs donates Christmas baskets to families

- Beggs Indian Community donated Christmas food baskets to two needy community families, chair Verna Barnes reported.

Duck Creek holds dinner, stockholders meeting

- Duck Creek Indian Community held its Christmas dinner for members in mid-December.

- The community hosted the Muscogee County Indian Credit Association Stockholders' dinner in November. Eighty-eight people were in attendance, said community vice-chair Nancy Jo Harry.

Eufaula announces little miss contest winners

- Creek youth Ada Baldridge is the winner of the Eufaula Indian Community Little Miss Contest. Baldridge, 10, won the contest by raising \$52. Melissa Rainwater, 9, was first runner-up raising \$44. The contestants competed by distributing cans to local merchants and collecting a penny per vote.

Baldridge and Rainwater represented the community in the City of Eufaula Christmas parade Dec. 5. They are the daughters of Bonita Tiger and Tammy Rainwater.

- Community activity coordinator Jerry Francis recently took 12 community elders on their annual tour of Christmas lights. The tours were taken in Muskogee and Tulsa.

Okemah elder to be featured in publication

- Okemah Indian Community elder Rebecca Stroud will be featured in a publication of Green Thumb, an elder-disabled employment program. The community contracted to hire Stroud through the program recently. Despite having a leg amputated last winter, Stroud works in the community giftshop 20 hours weekly. As a member of Thlophlocco United Methodist Church, she has been active with the Northeast District United Methodist women and church activities.

- Flu shots, gift wrapping services, and a community Christmas program were among benefits offered to community members in December.

Community program coordinator Nancy Duncan reported 120 people attended the Christmas program. The community distributed fruit and toys to community adults and children. Excess toys were donated to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Service Administration's angel tree project, Duncan said. The community also donated excess fruit to Creek Nation Community Hospital patients and local nursing home residents.

Okfuskee reschedules regular meeting date

- Okfuskee Indian Community has rescheduled its regular meeting date from the first Tuesday of each month to the first Thursday of each month. The meeting time remains at 7:30 p.m.

- Tribal children and family service administration representatives are scheduled to be guest speakers at the communities February regular meeting. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 4. The center is located two and one-half miles east of IXL community on state highway 48.

- Community member Curtis Harjo celebrated his 16th birthday Jan. 10.

- The community held a Christmas day dinner at the center. Seventy-five people attended the dinner, community reporter Sharon Hicks said. Hicks said the community would like to thank all members and visitors that attended.

Hanna schedules monthly bingo games through March

- Hanna Indian Community will hold its monthly bingo game at 7 p.m., Feb. 6. The grocery bingo games are scheduled at 7 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month through March. A food sale is held prior to each game at 6 p.m. The center is located two and one-fourth miles east of Hanna's main street.

- Community children were given Christmas candy sacks at the December bingo game, community treasurer Kizzie Harjo said.

Weleetka holds successful Christmastime festivities

- Weleetka Indian Community held a Christmas dinner and activities for members in late December. Activities

included Christmas caroling and the distribution of candy sacks to children. Chebon Gouge, 19, led the Christmas singing.

Koweta Indian Community holds holiday dinner

- A Christmas dinner was held preceding Koweta Indian Community's regular monthly meeting on Dec. 21. Community member Josephine Deere gave a scripture reading of the birth of Christ. The community also sang Christmas carols. The holiday celebration had a large attendance, said community reporter Martha Squire. Everyone attending received gifts and Christmas candy sacks.

Tribal briefs

Community Task force slates meetings

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Code Task Force will be meeting at the tribal capitol complex on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

A meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Jan. 25. Meetings for the following month will be held Feb. 8 and Feb 22. The task force is meeting in regard to developing a standard chartered community code. The task force encourages all chartered communities to send a representative to offer input, said task force secretary Nancy Duncan.

Task force officers are: chair Rufus "Buddy" Cox, Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association; vice-chair Charles Skaggs, Checotah Indian Community; and Duncan, Okemah Indian Community. For more information, call Duncan at (918)623- 9227.

The tribal capitol complex is located at the intersection of U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Seniors vote to keep gift shop open

OKMULGEE — After informal appeals by Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal complex employees, the senior citizens of Okmulgee Indian Community voted in favor of keeping their giftshop open.

The elders made the decision at a Dec. 30 meeting. The group had voted to close the shop, located in the tribal complex, in an Oct. 28 meeting. The original decision to close was made because shop guidelines set by the seniors' guidelines committee were not being followed sufficiently, secretary Mary Thames said. Thames said there was a "lack of an adequate bookkeeping system."

Thames said she believes many elders were influenced to vote in favor of keeping the store open after tribal employees informally approached elders - requesting it remain open. Basically, the elders believe the store has been a good service to its patrons, she said.

Oklmulgee Head Start chili lunch

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation's Okmulgee Head Start will be holding a chili lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 18. The lunch includes: chili; dessert; and a drink. The lunch is \$3 per plate. It will be held in the east lobby of tribal independent agencies (mound) building. The building is located on the tribal complex at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Oklmulgee Head Start offers childcare

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation's Okmulgee Head Start will be offering before and after school care. For more information, call Barbara O'Neal, Okmulgee Head Start teacher, at 756-8700, ext. 320.

Tribal births

Miranda Logan LeGrand

OKMULGEE — Miranda Logan LeGrand was born Dec. 9 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to LeeAnn Tecumseh and Matt LeGrand, both of Okmulgee. She weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20 inches long at birth. Maternal grandparents are Anita Freeman of Okmulgee and Andrew Tecumseh of Twin Hills. Maternal great-grandparents are Hepsey Ray of Joplin, Mo. and Robert Freeman of Okmulgee, and Evelyn and the late Andy Tecumseh of Twin Hills. Paternal grandparents are Joe and Jean LeGrand of Okmulgee. Paternal great-grandmother is Pearline Jennings of Okmulgee.

Lesha Maria Deere-Turney

BEMIDJI, Minn. — Lesha Maria Deere-Turney was born to Lesha Deere and Leroy Turney Sept. 10. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 21 inches long at birth. Her maternal grandfather is the late Phillip Deere. Her paternal grandparents are Marvin Turney, Lake Zuric, Ill. and the late Pearl Turney. The family resides in Okmulgee. Deere-Turney is Mvskoke-Ojibwe and a member of the Bear Clan and Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground.

Britain Nicole Back

TULSA — Britain Nicole Back was born July 7 at Claremore Indian Hospital to Stephanie and Mark Back of Tulsa. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 21 inches long at birth.

Maternal grandparents are Melba Williams of Glenpool and Joe Skeeter of Liberty Mounds. Maternal great-grandfather is Jimmie Skeeter of Liberty Mounds. Paternal grandparents are Margaret and Jerry Back of Tulsa. Paternal great-grandmother is Edna Back of Flint, Mich.

Sara Abigail Clark

OKMULGEE — Sara Abigail Clark was born Nov. 23 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Chris and Paula Clark of Okemah.

Maternal grandparents are Paul and Hannah Dodson of Okemah. Great grandmothers are May Fisher and Orda Dobson, both of Okemah. Paternal grandparents are Fred and Verna Clark of Okemah. Great-grandmother is Violet Stafford of Sallisaw. She was welcomed home by Christopher, 7, and Heather, 5.

Cassandra Danise Rumsaboe

OKMULGEE — Cassandra Danise Rumsaboe was born at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Michael Rumsaboe and Kymberley Harjo. Cassandra weighed 6 pounds and 3 ounces and was 18 inches at birth. Maternal grandparents are Eddie and Martha Lowe of Eufaula. Paternal grandparents are Matt Rumsaboe of Okmulgee and Amelia Rumsaboe of Oklahoma City. Maternal great-grandparents are Tom and Mandy Lowe of Hanna.



Back



Clark



Rumsaboe

Tribal education briefs

Creek makes middle school honor roll

SHAWNEE — Muscogee tribal member James Spain is an honor student and athlete at Shawnee Middle School.

Spain was the starting quarterback for his seventh grade team. He also played defensive back and was the team's place kicker.

Spain also plays basketball and pitches for a baseball team coached by Kelly Bell, Creek. He is the son of Jack Spain.



Spain

Grant brings agriculture agent to tribe

OKMULGEE — Robin Cooper has begun her duties as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation agriculture agent for youth.

Cooper is employed through a federal extension grant. Her primary job responsibilities include working with Indian youth ages nine through 18 who reside within the

tribe's jurisdictional boundaries.

Cooper said she will provide technical assistance for youth in agriculture programs, including livestock.

Her office is located at the natural resources office at the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee.

Cooper received her master's degree from Oklahoma State University in 1989. She previously worked for Dogs Against Drugs, a canine detection service.

For more information, contact Cooper at (918) 756-8700, ext. 348.

OSU-Okmulgee offers language class

OKMULGEE — Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee's continuing education department is offering a Mvskoke language class during the spring semester. The alphabet and basic sound patterns of the language are the course objectives. Suzanna Factor will be the instructor. The class will be held Thursdays at 6 p.m. from Jan. 7 through April 15. The enrollment fee is \$121.35 and college credit is available. For more information, call (918) 756-6211 or toll free 1-800-722-4471.

Tribal birthdays

Mark Alan Back



Back

TULSA — Mark Alan Back observed his second birthday with a Batman theme party at the home of his parents, Stephanie and Mark Back of Tulsa. Maternal grandparents are Melba Williams of Glenpool and Joe Skeeter of Liberty Mounds. Maternal great-grandfather is Jimmie Skeeter of Liberty Mounds. Paternal grandparents are Margaret and Jerry Back of Tulsa. Paternal great-grandmother is Edna Back of Flint, Mich.

George and Janelle Bissonnette

CHICOPEE, Mass. — George Joel Bissonnette was 8 years old Oct. 3. His sister, Janelle L. Bissonnette,



Bissonnette



Bissonnette

was 10 Oct. 16. Parents are George Bissonnette Jr. and Joan D. Gelinas Bissonnette of Chicopee.

Janelle is a fourth-grade student and her brother is a second-grade student at the Stefanik Elementary School, Chicopee.

They are the grandchildren of Joan Bergeron and the late Edmund Gelinas of Chicopee. The paternal grandparents are George and Anne Bissonnette Sr. of Southampton, Mass.

Their great-grandparents are the late Martin J. and Mary J. Wadsworth McAlpine of Sapulpa.

Tribal seniors

Bissonnettes observe anniversary

SOUTHAMPTON, Mass. — Anne and George J. Bissonnette Sr. of Southampton, Mass., celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary Sept. 13 with a 10-day vacation in Aruba.



The Bissonnette's

They are the parents of three children: Annmarie J. Christian of Springfield, Mass.; Barbara F. Walz of Chicopee, Mass.; and George J. Bissonnette Jr. of Chicopee.

The senior Bissonnette is retired from the former Holyoke Street Railway Company. Anne Bissonnette is a retired special education teacher from Westfield Public Schools, Westfield, Mass.

Federal retirees select Johnnon

OKEMAH — Okfuskee District representative Clyde Johnson has been elected president of The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, Chapter 730.

Johnson, of Okemah, is retired from the U.S. Postal Service. He was a rural mail carrier for 37 and one-half years. The four-term Muscogee (Creek) National Council rep. also served in the U.S. Army Air Force in the European Theater Operations from February 1943 to November 1945. As a serviceman, Johnson saw action in Scotland, England, France, Luxembourg, Holland, and Belgium.

Other officers include: Bill Bannister, vice-president; Nancy Emberson, secretary-treasurer; John Franks, legislative officer; Bill Bannister, membership chair; Don Ingraham, service officer; Charles Westfall, chaplain; Dan Massey, sergeant at arms; Betty Westfall, historian; Margaret Bannister, Alzheimer's disease project coordinator; Bonnie Idsardi, public relations; Eula Perkins, calling committee chair; Jack and Kathy Thurman, registration and greeters; and Kathryn Ingraham and Margaret Bannister, program co-chairs. For more information, call 918-623-0100.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

MINEOLA WALKER DOUGLAS

TAHLEQUAH — Funeral services for Mineola Walker Douglass, an original allottee, were held Nov. 19 at the Reed-Culver Chapel with Rev. Boney McIntosh officiating.

Douglass was born Jan. 1, 1901, near Stidham, to Edward H. and Eula Coody Walker. She died Nov. 13 in Orange, Calif.

She was a homemaker and was married to Clark Shelburn Douglass. He preceded her in death in 1972. She was also preceded in death by: two brothers, Johnie H. Walker and George Walker; and a sister, Bessie Walker Goad.

She is survived by: four sons, Clark Douglass Jr. of Carmichael, Calif., Kyle and James Douglass both of Costa Mesa, Calif.; and Don Douglass of Diamond Springs, Calif.; a daughter, Barbara Grimm of Costa Mesa; four sisters, Mary Elsey of Portland, Ore., Edith Jacobs of Checotah; Susan Perry of Holdenville, and Mamie Toon of Eufaula; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

FREELAND DAN HAMMONTREE

HANNA — Graveside services were held Nov. 10 for Freeland Dan Hammontree, 47, of Henryetta. Service was held at the Weogufkee Cemetery, near Hanna, with Rev. Robert Hunnicutt officiating.

Hammontree died Nov. 8 at the Henryetta Medical Center. He was born July 6, 1945 in Hanna, the son of Marvin and Lorine Chisholm Hammontree. He married Carolyn A. Williams Jan. 14, 1972 in Schulter. He was a self-employed construction worker.

Hammontree was preceded in death by his father Marvin H. Hammontree. Survivors include: his wife, Carolyn of the home; one brother, Marvin Hammontree Jr. of Flowermound, Texas; three sisters, Nina Truelove of Dustin, Sharimon Forrest of Ochelata, and Marilyn Ross of Weleetka; and his mother, Lorine Hammontree.

DAVID J. CUMMINGS

SHAWNEE — Funeral services for Rev. David J. Cummings, 78, of Shawnee, were held Dec. 9 at the First Indian Baptist Church, Shawnee. Rev. Cummings was born March 16, 1915 at Hanna.

He grew up in Hanna and served in World War II and in the Korean conflict. He was ordained to the ministry in 1962 at Wekiwa Baptist Church and served as pastor of Friendship Baptist Church until his retirement in 1982. He pastored and served in many churches, including Oakhurst and Weogufkee.

Survivors include: his wife, Cathrine Cummings of the home; Ingrid Tate of Virginia; Dale Knapp of Virginia, Richard Cummings of El Paso, Texas; Marcus Cummings of Richmond, Va.; Ellis Cummings, Oceanside, Calif.; Boyd Cummings, Shawnee; one-brother, Jake McGilbray; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Interment was in the Resthaven Cemetery, Shawnee.

RUTH YAHOLA

HOLDENVILLE — Memorial services were held for Ruth Yahola, Dec. 2, at the family home with Rev. Houston Tiger officiating. Yahola was born Feb. 6, 1901 in Okmulgee, Indian Territory, and lived most of her life in Hughes County. She passed away Nov. 28.

She was married to Barney Yahola who preceded her in death in 1970. She was also preceded in death by: a son, Harold Yahola in 1956; and a daughter, Jorene Yahola in February 1992. She is survived by: three sons, Roman Yahola, Houston Yahola and Wiley King; two daughters, Irene Fife of Holdenville and Joanna Conway of Guinda, Calif.; and several grandchildren great-grandchildren; nieces; and nephews.

Interment was in the Yahola Family Cemetery.

CLYDE WAYNE HERROD

CALVIN — Funeral services for Clyde Wayne Herrod, 50, of Cromwell, were held Dec. 7 at Tookparfka Baptist Church with Rev. George Jesse officiating. He died Dec. 1 at Creek Nation Community Hospital, Okemah.

He was born April 9, 1942 to Willie and Betsy Swimmer Herrod at Talihina. He attended Wetumka Public Schools. Herrod was a U.S. Army veteran stationed in Germany during the Vietnam conflict. He was employed with the Oklahoma National Stockyard at the time of his death.

Herrod married Debbie Wilkerson in July 1991. They were members of the International Church of God in Oklahoma City.

He was preceded in death by: his mother, Betsy; and a brother, Willie Herrod.

Survivors include: his wife, Debbie of the home; a son, Chad Herrod of Cromwell; three stepsons, Travis, Sean, and Chad Wilkerson of Cromwell; his father, Rev. Willie Herrod of Hiawatha, Kan.; two brothers, Jonathan Herrod of Wapato, Wash. and Holloway Herrod of Hiawatha; four sisters, Willa Washington and Abby Wesley, both of Oklahoma City, Faye Herrod of Del City, and Connie Harjo of Midwest City; several nieces; nephews; and several friends.

Interment was in the Herrod Family Cemetery.

Oklahoma National Stockyard at the time of his

SAMPSON SULLIVAN

THLOPHTHOCCO — Funeral services for Sampson Ernest Sullivan, 64, of Wetumka, were held Dec. 11 at Thlophlocco United Methodist Church with Rev. Ray McGilbray officiating.

Sullivan was born Jan. 15, 1928 in Okfuskee to Jimmie and Annie King Sullivan. He died Dec. 7.

Survivors include: his wife, Arlene of Oklahoma City; a son, Barry Ernest Sullivan of Gainesville, Ga.; three daughters, Vicki Sullivan, Margaret Ann McGuffee, and Jean Burnett, all of Oklahoma City; a half-brother, George Cook of Okemah; four sisters, Lucille Dunson of Glenpool, Lea Dunson of Seminole, Mamie Doxtator of Anchorage, Alaska, and Minnie Johnson of

Okemah; four grandchildren; several nieces; nephews; many relatives; and friends.

Interment was in the Thlophlocco Cemetery.

DONALD RAY JOHNSON

DUSTIN — Memorial services for Donald Ray Johnson, 39, of Maywood, Calif., were held Nov. 15 at Thewarle United Methodist Church, with Rev. Alex Lowe officiating.

Johnson died in Maywood.

He is survived by: his parents, Cecil and Annie Johnson of California; five children; five sisters; and two brothers.

He was the grandson of the late Yuma and Nicey Johnson.

CORA LEITKA

WEWOKA — Funeral services for Cora Leitka, 76, of Okmulgee, were held at the Stout Funeral Home Chapel in Wewoka. Officiating were the Revs. Jimmy Anderson, Eddie Lindsey, and Paul Whittaker.

Leitka was married to Rev. Elliott Leitka in May 1937 in Wewoka. He preceded her in death in April 1989.

She and her husband worked in the Baptist ministry for many years, beginning in the Wewoka Indian Baptist Church. Leitka served as a missionary to the Beaver, Vian Creek, Sand Springs, and Cedar Springs churches under the direction of the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association. Her ministry also included mission work in Okmulgee with college students, the Clinton Indian Baptist Church, and the Brighton Indian reservation in Florida. In 1984 she returned to Oklahoma where she and her husband pastored the Glenpool Indian Baptist Mission.

Survivors include: a son, Elliott Leitka Jr., of Carson, Calif.; four daughters, Sarah Ward and Wanda Jones, both of Shawnee, Ruthie Burgess of Okmulgee, and Loretta Denny of Glenpool; one stepson, Eugene Leitka of Albuquerque, N.M.; one stepdaughter, Betty Passah of Oklahoma City; 14 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives.

Burial was in the Buck Family Cemetery.

Mvto

Funeral services for Winnie Burgess were held Dec. 8 at Seminole Indian Baptist Church. We would like to thank everyone who came to visit our loved one, while she was in the hospital for three months, before going to her rest.

We would like to send a special thank you to the following for all the help, food, and flowers that were sent: Noah Burgess; George Jesse; George W. Harjo; Madeline Burgess; Joannie Harrison; the preachers that helped during the wake service; and the ones who helped cook. May the Lord bless each and everyone that came.

The Family of Winnie and Alex Burgess

Council authorizes facility use agreement at November meeting

continued from page 3

— approved a resolution supporting the administration to participate in the intertribal monitoring association regarding Indian trust funds. Voting against the resolution: Roberts;

— amended the judicial code (NCA 82-30). Voting against the bill: Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee; and Irene Cleghorn, Tulsa;

— amended NCA 82-30 and NCA 82-69. Unanimous approval;

— approving tribal membership in the National Congress of American Indians. Voting against the bill: Dwayne Lowe, Hughes; and Tommy Pickering, McIntosh;

— appropriated \$1,500 to the Okmulgee Indian Community. Voting against the bill: Mose Cahwee, Creek; Earl Wheeler, Creek; McIntosh; Roberts; Larry Bible, Tulsa; Pat Kelley, Tulsa; Abstaining: Don Cahwee, Tulsa; and Randall, Tulsa;

— gave authority to the executive office to enter into facility use agreements with tribal chartered communities for governmental operations. Voting against the bill: Wilson Bear, McIntosh; McIntosh; Helen Chupco, Muksogee; Charlie Coker, Muskogee; Eugene Birdcreek, Okfuskee; Clyde Johnson, Okfuskee; Roberts; Gilroy; Litsey; Cleghorn; Randall; and Richard Berryhill, Wagoner;

— amended NCA 92-128 to supplement the emergency home improvement program. Unanimous approval; and

— approved a resolution to promote hiring of the mentally and physically disabled. Unanimous approval.

Wilson ready for new role as tribe's executive director

continued from page 1

"I've enjoyed working at OSU-Okmulgee and I enjoy the mission and the leadership Dr. Robert Klabenes has provided the school," Wilson said.

Wilson's decision to join the Fife administration is based on returning tribal government and services to Creek and Yuchi people.

"I made the decision to become executive director because I support wholly, Chief Fife's public agenda and strategic plan for tribal members," Wilson said. "Our philosophies regarding tribal government are compatible. We both want to return the government to the people whom are to be served."

Wilson said he is grateful to the Tulsa District citizens that have supported him during his tribal council tenure.

"The council made significant accomplishments in the Tulsa District in employment and funding," Wilson said. "I've enjoyed my relationship with the people and the National Council. I hope I have been a custodian of power and made positive contributions to the Council."

For subscription information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation communications department at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or by phone at (918) 756-8700.

Laura Ann Wilson received honorable mention in the Oklahoma Heritage Week Poster Contest for participation in the observance of Oklahoma statehood. Present for the awards presentation and reception were: front row, left to right, Laura Wilson; her brother, Clinton; back row, her uncle, Principal Chief Bill Fife; Oklahoma Gov. David Walters; her uncle, Jerry Wilson; her mother, Sandy Wilson; and her father, Al Wilson.



Housing authority offers septic tank monitoring

OKMULGEE — In an effort to prevent and/or reduce costly repairs and as a service to homebuyers, the Creek Nation Housing Authority is conducting a survey of mutual help homebuyers who would like to participate in a monitoring system of septic tank and lateral line cleaning service. Responsibility to clean septic tank and lateral lines remains with the homeowner.

The total cost for this service will be approximately \$150. The homebuyer can make arrangements to authorize this service and add the cost to their monthly payments. Minimum payment is \$12 with a maximum payment of \$25 per month for a one-year period.

If the homebuyer does not know when lines and tank were last cleaned, it is suggested they do so as a preventive measure to ensure against future problems with the septic system. If the system has been cleaned in the last year, they do not need to have the system cleaned out.

Participants can contact Eugene Thomas at the housing authority at 756-8504 or toll-free at 1-800-259-5050.

Tribe planning for self-governance

continued from page 1

said. "We now can redesign and develop organizational structure, including management, to serve the tribe's best interests."

Though only in the planning stages and limited for now to BIA programs, LaGrone said the tribe is part of a national scene which includes the participating tribes seeking one working agreement with the federal government.

"The tribes [will be] negotiating one agreement with the U.S. for all the programs," LaGrone said. "Essentially, the [tribes'] agreement will be a treaty for all federal programs to be controlled by the tribes."

LaGrone said that Indian Health Service and the U.S. Department of Labor are also making provisions for self-governance. He said the next step in the process is to educate people about self-governance.

"We will be educating communities, the National Council, and all decision-making bodies, informing them as to what self-governance is about and what it can do for the tribe," LaGrone said.

Religious briefs

Baptist calendar of events

January 13 through 15 — revival, Wetumka Indian Baptist Church, Wetumka, services begin nightly at 7 p.m., visiting pastors preaching

February — Indian Falls Creek information packets distributed to churches. Packets will include registration forms and permission waivers for camp health personnel.

Feb. 7 — God's glory rally, 2 p.m., Indian Nations Baptist Church, Seminole

Feb. 8 — Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association Sunday school conference and church music directors workshop, 7 p.m., Tuskegee Baptist Church, Eufaula

Feb. 20 — Robert Jones benefit gospel singing, 2 p.m., Branson Hicks of Gospel Duet and Bill Drywater of Vans Lake Quartet masters of ceremonies, Buckeye Baptist Church, Mason

March 4 through 6 — Oklahoma Indian leadership and evangelism combined conferences, First Indian Baptist Church, 201 S. Howard, Moore

March 19 through 21 — National Indian Baptist Youth Conference, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, \$5 registration, contact (817) 478-9387 for information

April 4 through 11 — revival, Indian Nations Baptist Church, Seminole, services at 7 p.m. Richard Pickup, evangelist

Creek elected to state Baptist board

MOORE — Rev. Bill Barnett has been elected first vice-president of Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma at the conventions annual assembly held at First Baptist Church, Moore.

Barnett is the first Indian elected to the board. He was nominated by Rev. Jimmy Anderson, Creek. Anderson told the assembly that Barnett has committed himself to evangelism, supports the cooperative program, and has trained other Indians for work in the gospel ministry. Barnett was ordained as a pastor in 1961. He and his wife, Mary Jo Smith, have five children.

Barnett has been the pastor of Indian Nations Baptist Church, Seminole since 1975. He is also the executive director of Indian Falls Creek Baptist Assembly. Additionally, he is the editor and publisher of the *Oklahoma Indian Baptist* monthly paper.

Editor's note: Barnett was featured in the July edition of *The Muscogee Nation News*.



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Fife says time for tribe to move ahead

Creek chief says transition over in state of nation address

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife said the tribe must focus on stronger and more effective government in his state of the nation address.

The speech, mandated by the tribal constitution, was delivered to the National Council Jan. 30.

In his address, Fife said 1992 was a time of transition from an old way to a new philosophy of governing.

Fife also called for broad-based leadership from tribal members to meet future challenges.

"It is my philosophy that we must have a broad based leadership in order to be stronger and ready to meet challenges which threaten the existence of the Creek Nation as we know it," Fife said.

Specifically, Fife cited his 1993 priorities as: resolving the sometimes tense relations between the tribe and Oklahoma government; building Creek leadership; developing a Creek economy; and promoting community development.

Fife said he is committed to fighting the state's challenges to tribal sovereignty, especially in the areas of gaming, taxation, and tobacco sales.

Though pledging tribal resources to resist Oklahoma challenges to sovereignty, Fife appealed to "all levels" of tribal membership for leadership to "resolve our dilemma with the state government, the federal government, and other foes of the Creek Nation.

"Whether you are a community officer, a tribal town leader, an employee of the community, or the Creek Nation, we all have contributions to make," Fife said.

Fife said he will set his administration's priorities for revenue management and expenditures and called for expanding the tribe's revenue base from one of bingo and tobacco taxation to a more diverse revenue base.

"It's extremely important that we devise a system which determines how our tribal wealth is produced, distributed, and consumed," Fife said.

Fife noted that Creek money leaves the tribe and stimulates the non-Indian community. He called for more individual entrepreneurship, but said the tribe should develop an economy that involves Creeks in every segment of the economy.

Fife's list of 1992 accomplishments

- \$1.1 million grant for tribal development building
- completing housing needs assessment resulting in a \$5 million housing rehab grant
- contracting of Johnson O'Malley program from the state
- completing the Creek Nation random sampling survey of quality and quantity of services
- settlement of Indian Health Service lawsuit
- building of Muskogee bingo hall
- signing the juvenile and family codes into law
- assisting natural disaster victims
- signing elder and adult protection codes and criminal and traffic codes into law
- facilitating ceremonial tribal leaders meeting
- introduction of planning for self-governance



Principal chief Bill Fife (left) and second chief Shelly Crow (right) visit with U.S. Senator David Boren at an inauguration ball in Washington D.C.

National Council speaker wrangles cattle and politics

by Kathryn Bell, Muscogee (Creek) National Council

BRISTOW—Clarence Cloud, speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, is not only known for his legislative role with the Creek tribe, but is also widely known in this area as a successful rancher and breeder of Hereford Horned cattle.

Speaker Cloud, who presides over the 31-member National Council, is owner and operator of "Cloud Five," a 400-acre ranch in Creek County, near Bristow.

The ranch, on land that Cloud inherited from his father's 80-acre allotment, has been progressively expanded since 1957 and has been successful with its Hereford cattle breeding operation.

Today, Cloud runs his ranch with the aid of his wife, Lou, and sons Mark and Rodney. Getting started in ranching was a natural for Cloud. He remarked on the lifetime occupation. "I love working cattle and everything that goes with it. I was raised in the rural area and like most people raised in this setting I enjoy the simple and natural lifestyle it provides. It makes me feel close to creation and the Creator."

Cloud, in talking about the transition of his cattle operation to registered Hereford cattle, gave credit to Hereford breeding greats like the late Doc Watson and Slim Taylor. He attributes their advice with helping make his ranch a success in Hereford breeding. "These Hereford experts, Doc Watson and his ranch manager Slim Taylor, who still lives on and manages the legendary Watson Ranch in Morris, and others like Gary Shaw — all have had the best performance Hereford herds in the U.S. over the years."

With his traditional belief in stewardship of the land, a shrewd business sense, and "a lot of help and advice" from others in the Hereford cattle industry, the elder statesman turned "Cloud Five" into a moneymaking enterprise which has enjoyed a rare longevity in the industry. Inspite of the many market fluctuations, and natural occurrences — drought years, cattle disease, Cloud Five survived. "A real low point for the ranch eight years ago

Second chief attends Clinton inauguration, national meeting

by Shelly Crow, second chief

To the citizens of the great Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I would like to express my gratitude for your support this first year in office as your second chief.

It has been an awarding experience to serve; you have been very patient in allowing me to adapt to my new role.

There is not a school for second chiefs and many of you have had to bear with me in orientating this new position to full-time that which was once a part-time position.

I recently attended the National Congress of American Indians and the presidential inauguration. Everyone present had the same vision that our principal chief, myself, and the National Council had a year ago for the future of our nation.

Our chief has asked for unity among the ceremonial grounds, churches, and respect for all Muscogee people's beliefs. He also wants unity among the executive branch, National Council, and the judicial branch in order to serve our people. Chief Fife promoted that there be no power struggles within his administration.

This administration encourages economic development, free enterprise for citizens, and self growth. Decentralizing the government to the people is the key for progress in all areas of the Muscogee Nation.

President Clinton is promoting this type of government. The inaugural message was only 14 minutes, but quality, not quantity, was communicated about his pledge to citizens of this country.

His message to all of us was that we must take responsibility to "break the bad habit of expecting something for nothing, from our government or each other. Let us take more responsibility not only for ourselves and our families, but for our communities and our country."

Other presidents have made similar statements. President Kennedy stated "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country."

President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated "We must be willing to sacrifice for the good of a common discipline, because without such discipline no progress is made, no leadership becomes effective."

With the renewal of spirit in this country and hopefully a new administration, the Indian Nations across these United States will be honored as nations with the respect shown to foreign nations across the world by the federal government.

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, spoke at the NCAI meeting. He gave the American Indian hope under the new administration that President Clinton will appoint a U.S. Secretary of Interior and assistant secretary that will be an advocate of the American Indian instead of an advisory. He announced that the Secretary of the Interior had made the following statement: "Indian trust responsibility should be the

Letters to the editor

Councilman wants younger people hired
Editor:

This is an open letter to the 30,000 Creek citizens, but especially for young adults with small children.

I suppose the reason many of you don't have a job — and send your children to school without welfare assistance — is because we hire retired people to work for the tribe when they can live on Social Security and retirement checks.

Oklmulgee Indian Community has just hired two employees — both retired. Out of 92 applicants wanting a job, we hired two retired people.

Constituents, I can't do it all for you. You are going to have to help me. If you want a job, you have to start complaining and help me.

There are too many unemployed young people with families to feed and too many retired people working 40-hour week jobs.

Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee District representative

Creek elder grateful for community party

Editor:

I wish to thank the people who provided the party at Glenpool, Dec. 20, for the senior citizens. It was a lovely party with delicious food and joyous entertainment.

May Belle Smith, Glenpool

First-term councilman expresses gratitude

Editor:

This is an open letter to all tribal citizens. I have completed my first year on the National Council and it has been a learning and productive experience. Last year was my most rewarding year that I can remember. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve the citizens of the Okmulgee District. Our present administration is working toward a brighter and more prosperous future involving economic development, health care, and all programs for our people. I hope

we can take President Lincoln's advice and have a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Thank you all.

A.D. Ellis, Okmulgee District representative

Tribal citizen commends council member
Editor:

I am writing this letter to commend Okmulgee District representative Charlie Litsey - not only for the causes that he speaks up for - but because he has the guts to do so. I wish we had more council members like him.

I heard a council representative remark that the tribal council isn't social workers, but lawmakers. One council member remarked, "you can't save the world, Charlie." I heard another representative say, "I'll offer my opinion, but what's an opinion — it's like an elbow, everyone has one." Well, I'd like to say to council members who think in this manner — how about making a commitment to a cause? We have several problems within the tribal government — take your pick.

Not all council members share this attitude; I know we have other good council members who are putting forth an effort. Charlie Litsey — hang in there. There are a lot of good tribal citizens who appreciate your endeavors.

Curt Simmers, Bristow

Mother thanks medicine man

Editor:

We have travelled a long, hard road to find a miracle for our daughter Tiffany. Our daughter has been sick for the past five years. We live in Nebraska and have travelled throughout Kansas and to Colorado to find help from medical doctors.

We found nothing but heartache and no results. The doctors never could tell us what was wrong with our daughter. Finally they put her on a vegetables-only diet.

She had dark circles under her eyes and would not
please see LETTERS..., page 12

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News, a member of the Native American Journalists Association, is a monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. **The Muscogee Nation News** is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News** nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of each month. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

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writer: Jim Wolfe

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Muscogee Nation administration leaders

principal chief: Bill Fife

second chief: Shelly Crow

executive director: Jerry Wilson

Awarded for general excellence for tribal monthlies
by the Native American Journalists Association

Tulsa District voting in special election to fill Council vacancy

TULSA — Four Creek citizens are vying for a National Council seat left vacant when Tulsa District representative Jerry Wilson resigned from office to accept the position of tribal executive director.

Wilson resigned from office in December; he was also the Council's second speaker.

Vying for the seat are: Stephen Bruner, Broken Arrow; Ed Moore, Tulsa; Carol Morris, Tulsa; and Donna Rhodes, Glenpool.

Unregistered Tulsa District citizens may register at the tribal election board office in the tribal capitol complex, located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56. The deadline date to register for precinct voting is 5 p.m., Feb. 10.

The general election is Feb. 20. Precincts are: Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center, 6363 E. 31st, Suite 105; and Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center, 13839 S. Casper Road or one block north of U.S. Highway 75 and 141st St. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. If necessary, a primary election will be held April 3.

The candidates

Candidate: Bim Stephen Bruner

Personal: 43; son of Elliot and Leda Vee Bruner; wife, Carol Jean McElroy; three children

Church: First United Methodist, Broken Arrow

Tribal town: Loca Poka

Clan: Bear

Education-experience: Broken Arrow High School; associate's degree in police science, Tulsa Junior College; 120 hours of college credit from the University of Tulsa, Northeastern State University, and the University of Oklahoma; U.S. Army veteran; Tulsa Police Department canine training; Tulsa Police Department veteran; have served on various boards of youth programs; manager of store operations, Native American Trading Co., Inc.



Bruner

Reason for seeking office: I am aggressively seeking office because I am uniquely qualified to sit on any decision-making body. I can make sound, rational, and progressive decisions. My educational background and unique life experience have given me a strong desire to see that everyone is treated fairly and honestly.

I will not be out-worked in research. I have no hidden agenda. I am not angry at anyone. I am not a single-issue candidate. I will vote for items that I truly feel will benefit the entire tribe.

I am not anyone's puppet. I am a free thinker. I owe no political favors and nothing is owed me. I am for a sound,

stable economic base.

I am not a professional politician nor do I desire to be one. I am a direct product of Indian assistance programs. I am better off today because other Indian people took the time and [made an] effort to assist me. It is time to repay these hard working people. I can help accomplish that goal by being elected to the National Council.

Candidate: Edwin Moore

Personal: 52; son of Edwin Sr. and Sallie Beaver Moore; wife, Linda; four sons; one daughter, and two step-daughters

Church: Big Cussetah United Methodist Church

Tribal town: Cussetah

Clan: Bear

Education-experience:

Tahlequah High School; bachelor's degree in education, Oklahoma State University; additional college credit from the University of Oklahoma, Northern Montana College, East Central University; educator; Indian education director; Title V parent committee; Indian counselor; Indian Youth Running Club, Track of Athletic Congress; rancher; sales; and construction

Reason for seeking office: For the Creek Nation to advance, it is of the utmost importance to support education programs that develop occupational skills — be it vocational-technical, higher education, or apprentice training.

I am willing to protect the sovereignty of Creek Nation. I am a strong supporter for improving the health and welfare of the Creek people. I will always work for the best interest of Creek Nation and its tribal members.



Moore

Candidate: Carol Asbury Morris

Personal: 52; daughter of Joe and Lillie Lewis Asbury

Church: Arbeka Baptist

Tribal town: Kialegee; has taken medicine at Arbeka Ceremonial Ground

Clan: Bear

Education-experience: associate's degree, Del Mar College; earned additional college credit at Corpus Christi State University; Tulsa Creek Indian Community Treasurer; and employed with the City of Tulsa Urban Development Department

Reason for seeking office: Tulsa Creek and Yuchi citizens are in need of representation that I want to provide. For example, the cost of living in a city such as Tulsa is much greater than some of our other communi-

ties. Our retired and elderly are requiring more services as each day passes.

I feel that modern society is pushing our young people away from their traditions and culture. Today's work place is requiring higher education than our citizens can get because of the high costs of a college education. Education is a must for our people. I support educational opportunities for all citizens.

Tulsa Creek citizens have many needs that I feel are being neglected. I would like the opportunity to represent you. Mvto.



Morris

Candidate: Donna Rhodes

Personal: 49; daughter of Jesse and the late Margaret Alexander Freeman

Church: Newtown United Methodist Church

Tribal town: Tukabatchee

Clan: Tiger

Education-experience: Served two terms as Tulsa District representative to the National Council; Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo Committee; bachelor's degree in business administration, Northeastern State University; credits from Tulsa Junior College; past president of the National Indian Education Association; appointed to the White House Conference on Indian Education; George Washington University Indian Policy and Research Advisory Committee; founder of Tulsa Indian Youth Council; Indian Health Care Resource Center; Indian Women Consultants; Glenpool Creek Indian Community Treasurer; and employed as minority program coordinator, American Red Cross.

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking office for two reasons. My experience and my knowledge of tribal government qualify me. I have an extensive knowledge of the internal workings of tribal government as well as an active involvement in the Indian community. This will ensure you better representation in your tribe. Please look over my experience and vote for me a qualified representative.

I will support stronger education, community development job development, health programs, economic programs and cultural programs.



Rhodes

Tribal briefs

Holdenville bingo to open this month

HOLDENVILLE — February 12 will mark the opening of the tribe's sixth gaming operation.

The tribal gaming operations authority board has set Feb. 12 as the tentative opening date for Creek Nation Holdenville Bingo.

Originally a community project, the National Council placed it under the supervision of the gaming operations authority board in November. Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo manager and assistant manager Joe Fox and Farrell Kaahue will be the hall's acting

managers. Fox and Kaahue will manage the hall and train its assistant manager until the opening of the Muskogee hall, said board member Rocky McIntosh. McIntosh said the facility will be under the supervision of the gaming board until the community feels capable of taking over the operation.

Children services begins adoption program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration has been awarded a two-year grant to implement a Special Needs Adoption Program (SNAP). This project is designed to meet the adoption needs of "hard-to-place" children.

The goals and objectives for the program are:

— to initiate a culturally appropriate and responsive

program to improve the possibility of permanent placement for special needs tribal children within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

— to coordinate and collaborate with Three Feathers Associates National American Indian Adoption Services in developing and implementing a Muscogee Nation computer matching system for use in matching children and families; and

— providing community based outreach education programs for Creek persons addressing factors of special needs children.

For more information, contact Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration at 918-756-2112.

Smokeshops thrive; Okmulgee, Duck Creek open new stores

Okmulgee community opens second smokeshop

• Okmulgee Indian Community recently opened its second smokeshop at 1507 S. Wood Drive.

Its first day of operation was Jan. 22, said chair Bernice Hale. Its hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Employees are: Richard Larney, supervisor; Emily Woodfield, clerk; Randall Watson, gas clerk; and Teresa Allen, part-time clerk. The community board is seeking a manager, Hale said.

Duck Creek smokeshop to open in February

• Preparations for the operation of Duck Creek Indian Community smokeshop are nearing completion.

Vice-chair Nancy Jo Harry anticipates it will open in early February. Phillip Romick has been hired as smokeshop manager, Harry said. The smokeshop will be located in south portion of the community's new center.

The center is located at U.S. Highway 75 and S. 241st St.

Holdenville slates treasurer election

• Holdenville Indian Community has slated February 20 for the community's treasurer election. The board removed former treasurer Susan Perry from office in November. She failed to fulfil her responsibilities as treasurer, secretary Cora Beaver said. Beaver said the board based their action on the community constitution which justified her removal from office. The center is located at 416 E. Poplar.

Glenpool to hold candidates forum

• Glenpool Creek Indian Community has slated a 7 p.m., Feb. 12 forum for candidates seeking Tulsa District National Council Seat D.

Refreshments will be served at the forum.

• Tulsa Indian Club is holding a Feb. 13 pow wow in the community's activity building. It will be held from 2 p.m. to midnight.

The center is located one block north of U.S. Highway 75 and 141st St.

Okemah holds election of officers

• Okemah Indian Community held its officers' election at the Jan. 18 regular meeting.

Officers are: Wilman Berryhill, chair; March Wind, vice-chair; Mae Jackson, secretary; Lucy Tiger, treasurer; and Jimmy Deere, board member at large, reported program coordinator Nancy Duncan.

Also on the agenda was Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration employee Carolyn Bigpond, who spoke to the community in regard to child abuse prevention, Duncan said.

• At 7 p.m., Feb. 13 a benefit bingo and food sale will be held to help defray the funeral expenses of the late Louise Deeringwater. The center is located two

blocks south of Interstate 40 and state highway 27.

• Duncan said two more elder community employees were hired through Green Thumb, an elder-disabled employment program. Those hired were: Rose Deere, housekeeping; and Ralph Henneha, maintenance.

• Two basketball goals have been installed inside the community center. The community is in the process of coordinating an adult basketball team, Duncan said.

Beggs community offers food donation

• Beggs Indian Community chair Verna Barnes reported the community donated seven food baskets to needy community families during the Christmas season.

Tulsa Creeks select new regular meeting time

• Tulsa Creek Indian Community has rescheduled its regular meeting date to 6:30 p.m., the fourth Wednesday of each month.

The community meets at Turner Recreation Center, located at 3503 E. Fifth Place.

Dustin purchases land for proposed center

• Dustin Indian Community recently purchased land to build its proposed community center on.

The land is located directly east of the City of Dustin post office, secretary Robin Fife said.

Fife said the community will submit its building fund proposal to the National Council in February.

Checotah holds more Mvskoke language classes

• Checotah Indian Community members voted to continue Mvskoke language classes at their regular January meeting.

• Beginning Mvskoke language class will start Feb. 16. The eight-week class will be held each Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. in the community center at 998 Maple.

Millie Colbert, Eufaula, will be the instructor. Colbert taught a class held at the center last year; 15 community members completed the course. An advanced Mvskoke language class is also in planning, although a date has not been set for the class, said reporter Cheryl Bear.

• Community members voted in favor of hiring Mary Turnbull to work in the community gift shop. Turnbull will be on probationary status for 30 days.

The community also hired a certified public accountant to audit the bingo, community, and smokeshop accounts, Bear said.

Kellyville hosts dance

• Kellyville Indian Community will be hosting a stompdance to be held by the Sapulpa Public Schools Indian Education Program.

The staff, parents, and students of Sapulpa Public Schools Indian Education Program will hold a stomp dance Feb. 13. A free supper will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The dance will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight.

The stompdance will be held in the community center, located two miles north of Kellyville on U.S. Highway 66.

• Community members who celebrated birthdays in February are: Shirley Brown; Beatrice Buckley; and Martha Watashe.

Oklahoma City announces new office hours

• Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association has changed its office hours to 8 a.m. through 5 p.m.



Indian Journal staff photo
Eufaula Indian Community Little Miss Ada Baldridge and first runner-up Melissa Rainwater represent the community in the city's Christmas parade.

Creek Nation tribal services directory

The following is a list of programs and services administered by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. For additional information, contact tribal headquarters at (918) 756-8700 and ask to be directed to a specific program.

Division of human development

The division administers the education and employment training service programs for the tribe.

employment and training administration

Three programs are operated under this administration. Services offered to eligible clients are assistance to obtain classroom training, general work experience training, and job placement assistance.

Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA)

scope of work: Providing eligible Indian adults with vocational training.

eligibility — applicants must:

- be able to document at least one-quarter degree Indian blood;
- be at least 18 years old or a high school graduate;
- reside within Creek Nation boundaries; and
- meet income guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Labor.

adult vocational training (AVT)

scope of work: Providing vocational training for eligible Indian adults.

eligibility — applicants must:

- be able to document at least one-quarter degree Indian blood;
- be at least 18 years old or a high school graduate;
- reside within Creek Nation boundaries; and
- attend an approved training site and course of study approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

tribal vocational-technical grant

scope of work: Providing financial assistance to eligible tribal members.

eligibility — applicants must:

- be an enrolled citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
- be accepted into an accredited vocational school program;
- provide a recent photograph;
- complete an original application and write an education plan for which the award is to be used;
- furnish grades at the end of each term; and
- maintain a 2.5 grade point average.

adult education

scope of work: The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Adult Education Program provides adult Indian students the opportunity to earn a general equivalency diploma (GED). Also, the program

provides continuing education classes for chartered tribal communities.

eligibility — GED participants must:

- be at least 17 years old or beyond the age of compulsory school attendance under state or tribal law;
- possess a certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB) card; and
- reside within Creek Nation boundaries. Applications for the community education classes should be made to the adult education department.

higher education

scope of work: The higher education program expends funds appropriated by Congress for Indian student education.

eligibility — students must:

- be enrolled tribal members; and
- attend an accredited institution of higher education.

The tribal funds grant will award all enrolled citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation attending an accredited college or university full-time.

The tribal incentive grant program is awarded to enrolled tribal citizens meeting grade point requirements.

Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Program

scope of work: The purpose of the program is to financially assist those efforts designed to meet the specialized and unique educational needs of eligible Indian students. It includes programs supplemental to the regular school program and school operational support necessary to maintain established state educational standards. The program supports approximately 8,372 students through 43 JOM school projects.

eligibility — participant must:

- be attending a public school; and
- possess certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB) card.

Head Start

scope of work: Head Start is a federal program administered by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with a preference for Indian children. Program goals include: language; cognitive; gross motor; fine; motor; social; emotional; and self-help skills. The tribe operates Head Start centers at Eufaula, Holdenville, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, and Yeager.

eligibility — requirements for enrollment are:

- low-income Indian children ages 4 and 5 year olds who will be eligible for kindergarten the next school year;
- low-income Indian children ages 3 and 4 years old who will not be eligible for kindergarten;
- handicapped children;
- non-Indian children; and
- children from families exceeding federal income guidelines.

JOM early childhood development

scope of work: This program will provide formal instructions to 189 Head Start students so their developmental age will be at or above their chronological age as shown on pre and post-test results.

eligibility: Head Start students are eligible.

Eufaula Dormitory

scope of work: The Eufaula Dormitory provides residential care for elementary-secondary school age Indian students and is operated by the tribe. Public Law 95-561 specifies parents have the right to determine which school their child(ren) will attend. Students living at the dormitory attend Eufaula Public Schools system.

eligibility: Students must have a certificate degree of Indian blood card.

Division of community services

The community services division is responsible for the administration of the tribe's social welfare programs.

social services

The following social services programs are administered under community services.

funeral assistance

scope of work: It provides for funeral assistance and food allowances for related expenses

eligibility — applicant must:

- be an enrolled tribal member; and
- provide funeral home statement signed by the funeral home director.

emergency hardship assistance

scope of work: It provides one-time, temporary assistance to those who have an income disruption because of job loss, death of primary wage earner, natural disaster, etc.

eligibility — applicant must be:

- an enrolled tribal member; and
- document circumstances regarding hardship.

emergency medical assistance

scope of work: It makes prescription medicines and medical equipment not carried by the Indian Health Service available.

eligibility — patient must:

- have access to an IHS hospital and/or clinic; and
- have documentation from an IHS hospital or clinic regarding the specific need and medicine. Payment is made for prescribed medication only. Exceptions to costs limits are made for cancer, dialysis, and heart patients.

Tribal services directory

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energy assistance

scope of work: Energy assistance entails a one-time grant to be used to defray energy-related expenses.

eligibility: Citizens age 55 and older are eligible. No duplication of services or assistance can be made.

general assistance

scope of work: This program contracted from the BIA to provide temporary financial assistance for those that are unemployed or are pending some public assistance with an emphasis on families.

eligibility — applicant must:

- be at least one-quarter degree Indian;
- reside within tribal boundaries;
- meet income eligibility guidelines; and
- cooperate with social services and agree to individual planning.

burial assistance

scope of work: The burial assistance program is contracted from the BIA.

eligibility — family must prove that deceased had:

- documentation of at least one-quarter degree Indian blood;
- resided within tribal boundaries; and
- family must make application before funeral.

employment assistance

scope of work: The program provides funds for new employees to use until they receive their first paycheck.

eligibility — applicant must:

- document at least one-quarter degree Indian blood;
- provide written notice (on company letterhead) confirming full-time employment; and
- reside within tribal boundaries.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

scope of work: The LIHEAP provides energy assistance using federal funds.

eligibility — applicant must:

- document Indian heritage with a certificate degree of Indian blood;
- meet income guidelines;
- have not received any energy assistance from another agency or the tribe preceding application; and
- reside within tribal boundaries.

emergency homeless program

scope of work: This program was designed to provide assistance to homeless Indians making a transition out of poverty.

eligibility — applicant must:

- prove Indian heritage; and
- income eligibility.

community assistance

scope of work: This program provides technical assistance for chartered tribal communities and their organizational structure.

eligibility: Any community that makes a formal request for technical assistance from the department is eligible.

children and family services administration

scope of work: This department offers comprehensive services for Indian children and families.

eligibility: Requirements for each program are included in the following descriptions.

Indian Child Welfare Act Program

scope of work: The agency responds to reports of child abuse and neglect in Indian Country. The program is the agency of notice for court hearings filed under the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978. Caseworkers provide legal advocacy and support services to Indian families and deprived and neglected children.

eligibility — participants must:

- document Indian heritage; and
- be an enrolled citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or be eligible for enrollment.

children's services program

scope of work: This is a court-based advocacy program for adolescents who have been adjudicated as in need of treatment, in need of supervision, or delinquent.

child abuse initiative program

scope of work: This protective services agency responds to allegations of abuse and neglect of Creek and Yuchi children; it pursues protective court action for tribal children in tribal district court.

alternative placement unit and adoption unit

scope of work: This program recruits, trains, trouble-shoots, and maintains a registry of Creek and Yuchi families wishing to become foster families, adopt, or offer alternative care for Indian children.

child care

scope of work: The objective of this program is to increase the availability, affordability, and quality of child care. It also provides for child care services for low-income individuals or families with a parent who is working, receiving training or participating in an educational-vocational training program. It provides before and after-care school services.

eligibility: All enrolled tribal citizens throughout Oklahoma are eligible.

family violence prevention and services

scope of work: It provides emergency assistance toward placement in an alternate home. Services include: emergency shelter placement; financial assistance for relocation; and establishment of a new, safe home environment. Counseling is also available.

youth and family program

scope of work: The program assists chartered tribal communities in providing activities and programs for youth and families including: outreach; violence prevention; and initiating formal youth organizations.

school clothing program (seasonal)

scope of work: This program administers tribal clothing funds for eligible students attending school in grades kindergarten through 12.

eligibility: Applicants must meet income guidelines and be enrolled tribal members.

food distribution program

scope of work: This program provides donated foods from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to eligible Indian households.

eligibility — participants must:

- document Indian heritage;
- reside within tribal boundaries, but outside the city limits of a city with 10,000 people or more;
- work for low pay or be unemployed; and
- receive public, general, or other assistance payments.

You cannot participate in the food stamp program and the commodity program simultaneously.

Division of tribal affairs

This division administers real property and facilities for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and individual Indians.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Land Operations

scope of work: Land operations is responsible for inspection of Indian-owned land that has been leased.

eligibility — inspections are done for:

- lease compliance;
- Indian landowner requests;
- oil and gas inspection reports;
- inspections for the Bureau of Land Management; and
- garden plowing for elders.

natural resources

scope of work: This program provides the appropriate staff, equipment, and resources to identify, protect, develop, and conserve the use of indi-

Tribal services directory

continued from page 6

vidual and restricted trust land. Services are provided for brush and weed control, preservation of water as a natural resource, research solid waste programs available to the tribe, construction, and fencing repair.

eligibility: It varies with services. Contact the natural resources department for more information.

real estate appraisals

scope of work: The primary purpose of the program is to help protect the financial interest of individual Indian trusts or restricted property. Responsibilities include estimating market and rental value for the surface of the property for guidance in making real estate transactions.

eligibility: The service area is limited to the jurisdictional boundaries of the Creek Nation; applications for appraisals should be made at the Creek Nation real estate office.

real estate services

scope of work: The Creek Nation has administrative jurisdiction for restricted property of Creek Indians.

eligibility: Clients must own or be a presumptive owner of an interest in restricted land or minerals.

consumer loans

scope of work: The purpose of the program is to help improve individual credit ratings and money management.

eligibility — participants must:

- be an enrolled citizen;
- secure loans with collateral;
- have capacity to repay loan; and
- receive only one loan per household.

Division of Health

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation operates the Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah. The tribe also operates dental clinics in Eufaula, Okmulgee, and Sapulpa, and health clinics in Eufaula, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

community health representatives

scope of work: This program provides assistance to eligible individuals to gain access to comprehensive health services both within Indian Health Service and through referrals to private physicians and facilities. The program also operates vision programs for children and elderly.

elderly nutrition

scope of work: This program provides one hot meal, five days a week, at eight sites throughout the Creek Nation. Nutrition sites are at: Bristow Indian Community Center; Dewar Indian Community Center; Eufaula Indian Community Center; Koweta Indian Community Center; Muskogee Indian Community Center; Okemah Indian Com-

munity Center; Okmulgee Indian Community Center; and Wetumka Indian Community Center.

eligibility — participants must:

- be 55 years or older; and
 - possess a certificate degree of Indian blood.
- To receive homebound delivery meals, participants must:
- be 55 years or older;
 - possess a certificate degree of Indian blood;
 - be homebound or bedfast; and
 - have no transportation.

Division of administration

This division includes many of the support services utilized in the day-to-day operation of the tribe.

executive office

This office consists of: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife; Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Shelly Crow; and executive director Jerry Wilson

communications department

scope of work: This department produces: a monthly information piece, *The Muscogee Nation News*; a weekly public service program, The Muscogee Nation News Radio Network; and audio-visual works.

eligibility: Subscriptions are free to enrolled tribal members. To receive *The Muscogee Nation News*, one must:

- make a request to the communications department;
- document tribal enrollment;
- provide current address and
- limit subscriptions to one per household.

Subscriptions are available as are video tapes on tribal culture, history, and government.

Independent agencies

There are several independent agencies operating within the tribal organization. The responsibilities of each are varied.

citizenship board

scope of work: This program's objectives are to enroll individuals as tribal citizens and maintain an accurate record of citizens.

eligibility — to make application for tribal citizenship, applicant must present:

- a certificate degree of Indian blood; and
- the Dawes Commission roll number of the first or last enrolled family member.

election board

scope of work: The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board provides citizens the opportunity to register to vote in tribal elections.

eligibility: any tribal citizen may register to vote provided that:

- the citizen is a registered voter of the Creek Nation;
- the citizen is at least 18 years old; and
- the citizen's tribal enrollment is valid.

lighthorse administration

scope of work: The tribal law enforcement division has the primary responsibilities of protecting life and property, investigating criminal acts, and apprehending criminal offenders within the Creek Nation jurisdictional boundaries

eligibility: Any tribal citizen or entity may request services from the lighthorse administration.

attorney general

scope of work: The office of the attorney general was established by tribal ordinance. The attorney general represents the tribe as prosecutor in Muscogee Nation District Court for both child welfare cases and criminal litigation. Additionally, the attorney general renders legal opinions at the request of the National Council and the principal chief.

The department of justice also serves the legal needs of tribal citizens with restricted land cases. The attorney general's office also makes lawyer referrals

office of public gaming

scope of work: The office of public gaming is responsible to the tribe and is charged with the responsibility to protect the integrity of the tribe and its financial interests.

The policy of this office requires that tribal bingo facilities be operated in a manner suitable to protect the public health, safety, morals, good order, and general welfare of the clients.

The office has oversight and compliance responsibilities for bingo halls in Bristow, Checotah, Eufaula, Holdenville, Muskogee, Okmulgee, and Tulsa.

Creek Nation Housing Authority

scope of work: This agency is to meet the demonstrated housing needs for Indians. More than 1,500 units have been constructed, as well as several low-rent housing complexes, by the housing authority.

eligibility: The program adheres to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development guidelines for participant eligibility.

For more information, contact the housing authority at 918-756-8504 or toll-free at 1-800-259-5050.

Other governmental agencies:

- The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Judicial Branch 918-758-1400, 1412;
- The Muscogee (Creek) National Council 918-758-1416, 1415, and 1412.

Tribal birthdays

Taylor McClellan

PRESTON—Taylor Elizabeth McClellan, Creek-Iowa-Otoe-Sac and Fox, celebrated her third birthday Jan. 6 at the home of her maternal grandmother, Norma Jean Sampson Bible in Preston.

Cake and ice cream were served to attending relatives. She is the daughter of Teresa and Billy E. McClellan Jr. of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Elvina and Frank McClellan Sr. of Chandler. Her maternal great-grandmother is Mable Hill of Preston.

LaDonna Nicole Pickup

OKMULGEE — LaDonna Nicole Pickup will celebrate her first birthday Feb. 19.

She is the daughter of Corey Allan and Donna Elaine Pickup of Okmulgee.

She has one brother, Corey Allan Pickup Jr.

Her maternal grandparents are the late Martha and Webster Chalakee, Okmulgee. Her paternal grandmother is Louise James of Salina. Paternal great-grandparents are Betty and the late Jesse James also of Salina.

Jamie Scott

BRISTOW — Jamie Scott observed his 24th birthday with family and friends. He is the son of Nannie and Bill Scott of Bristow.



Pickup



Bailey

Tribal births

Zachary James Bailey

OKMULGEE — Zachary James Bailey was born Sept. 6 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Vic and Regina Bailey of Yardeka. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 19 and three-fourths inches long at birth. He is of Creek-Yuchi-Cherokee descent.

Maternal grandparents are Bruce and Lettie Randall of Okemah. His maternal great-grandparents are the late Bunnie and Pauline Randall.

Paternal grandparents are Garlin and Pat Bailey of rural Henryetta. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Arvel and Ethel Bailey.

Brandy Jeanne Armitage

TULSA — Born at 1:32 a.m., Jan. 1, Creek citizen Brandy Jeanne Armitage was the first baby born in Tulsa in 1993.

Armitage was born at St. Francis Hospital and weighed 9 pounds, 8



Armitage

ounces.

She is the daughter of Ray and Sandy Armitage.

Tamiko Maria Dee

OKMULGEE — Tamiko Maria Dee was born Nov. 2 to Tina and James Dee of Red Mesa, Ariz.

Dee was born at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital and weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 and one-half inches long.

She is the maternal granddaughter of Timmy and Joyce Thompson of Yardeka. Her paternal grandparents are Ralph Sr. and Jenny Dee of Red Mesa.

Her maternal great-grandparents are the late Haskie and Marcelena Davis and the late Bessie Fife.

Rachel Denay Franks

ADA — Rachel Denay Franks was born Dec. 20, to Denise King and Ray Franks of Holdenville.

Franks was born at Carl Albert Indian Hospital and weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces. She measured 20 inches long at birth.

Her grandparents are Robert and Matilda King of Holdenville and John and Lucy Mae Franks of Sasakwa.

Jr. Colleges. Thompson, 23, is a sophomore at Haskell Junior College, Lawrence. He is majoring in liberal arts with an emphasis in physical education. Thompson expects to graduate in May 1993.

Thompson and his wife, Melinda, plan to attend Kansas University or the University of Arkansas next fall. He is the son of Tim and Joyce Thompson of Yardeka. He is a 1988 graduate of Henryetta High School.

Eufaula boarding school reunion planned

HOLDENVILLE — Students who attended Eufaula Boarding School from 1971 through 74 and are interested in attending a E.B.S. Reunion may contact: Quetta Harrison Pulliam, 211 E. 8th St. Harper, KS 67058 or 316-896-7516, after 9 p.m. or Nan Kalinich, 220 N. Oak St., Holdenville, OK 74848, 405-257-6583, after 6 p.m. call 405-379-7452.

Sapulpa program holds annual stomp dance

KELLYVILLE — The parents, staff, and students of Sapulpa Public Schools Indian Education Program are holding their eighth annual stomp dance Feb. 13. The dance is a fundraiser for the program's Sept. 26 Indian heritage day.

A free supper will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The stomp dance will be held from 7 p.m. through midnight. Sonny Littlebear and Boston Rowe will be the masters of ceremonies. Arts and crafts setup is free. Alcohol is prohibited; security will be provided. The dance will be held at Kellyville Indian Community Center. The center is located two miles north of Kellyville on U.S. Highway 66.

For more information, call Sapulpa Public Schools Indian Education Director Dwight Pickering at 224-9322.

Education briefs

Preston student makes honor roll

PRESTON — Balynda

Renee Bible has been named to the principal's honor roll for both semesters of this school year. The second-grade student was also on the roll during first grade. She was one of the top five students in her first-grade class.

Her parents are Teresa and Billy E. McClellan Jr. of Okmulgee. Maternal and paternal grandmothers are Norma Jean Sampson Bible of Preston and Sarah Micco Winney of Weleetka. Mabel Hill is her maternal grandmother. Wayne Micco of Oklahoma City is Bible's father.

Creek graduate receives honor

DENVER — Creek citizen Thomas Wind recently graduated from Metropolitan State College of Denver, receiving the school's president's award.

The award is given to one outstanding graduate each semester. Wind, who graduated with a 3.87 grade point average in computer science, was chosen out of



Bible



Wind

400 graduates. As the president's award winner he represented the commencement class, addressed those attending the ceremony, and commended his fellow graduates for fulfilling their desire to succeed.

With the assistance of tribal scholarships, Wind was able to obtain his bachelor's degree, he said. "I would like to thank the Creek Nation higher education department for financial and moral support," he said.

Last summer Wind interned at U.S. West Communications, internal communications services division in Denver. Wind resides in Colorado with his wife, Sharon, and son, Micco. He is the son of Monroe and Josephine Wind of Wetumka.

Wilkinson graduates from Florida State

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Charla Annette Wilkinson has graduated from Florida State University, Tallahassee, with a degree in accounting. She is currently employed by the RTM Corporation in Atlanta. RTM is the largest branch of Arby's and owns restaurants on the east coast. In October, she won the "enthusiasm award" and in November, received an "excellent" rating on her quarterly review.

Wilkinson, named after her uncle, Charlie Coker, is the granddaughter of the late Martha Gibson Anderson. Her parents are Imogene and Bob Wilkinson.

Thompson named to who's who

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Kendall Thompson has been included in the 1992 edition of Who's Who In American



Wilkinson

Tribal briefs

Child care assistance available

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is accepting applications for assistance with child care. Families with a gross monthly income less than \$2,817 may be eligible to participate. Applicants must be enrolled Muscogee citizens or eligible for enrollment.

Applications are available from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration, 313 W. 8th St., Okmulgee, OK, 74447, or call 918-756-2112. Applicants should be prepared to verify income and citizenship eligibility.

Tribal optometrist announces hours

OKEMAH — Dr. Richard Creed has begun optometry practice, in conjunction with the Creek Nation, at 304 N. 14th St. in Okemah. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. It is requested that patients have a chart at the Okemah Indian Health Clinic before making appointments. Walk-ins are accepted on the first Wednesday of each month. For more information, call 918-623-1688.

Tribal member makes rugby team

ALTADENA, Calif. — Creek citizen Richard "Dutch" Conner has been selected to the Southwest Region All-Star Quadriplegic Rugby Team. Conner competed at the International Wheelchair Rugby Invitational Tournament in Toronto during January. Conner was injured in 1984 when he attempted to break up a brawl. He now attends Pasadena City College. He is the son of Etta Conner, Glenpool.

Creek citizen ordained as pastor

OKEMAH — Ernest Marshall was ordained as a pastor during ordination ceremonies at Montesoma Baptist Church Jan. 16.

Ordination council members were: Pastor George Jesse, Spring Baptist Church; Rev. Alan Colbert, Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association Director of Missions; and Pastor Willis Knight, Little Cussetah Baptist Church.

Moderator for the service was Pastor Hiawatha Fixico, Greenleaf Baptist Church.

Creek chosen for leaders' program

MUSKOGEE — Dr. Jo Lynn Autry Digranes of Connors State College has been chosen to participate in the 1993 leaders program, an international leadership training plan for college women administrators.

Digranes, assistant to the director of CSC's Muskogee Campus, holds a PhD. in educational technology, a master's of science in student personnel and guidance and a bachelor's degree in sociology. She is a former Oklahoma State University Regents for Higher Education Minority Doctoral Fellowship and Scholarship recipient.

Her experience includes work in kindergarten through grade 12, public and independent institutions of higher education, as well as with American Indian Education agencies. She is a tribal member and Wetumka native.

Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation pageant set; committee announces guidelines for new role

OKMULGEE — The Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Pageant Committee has slated its annual event for June 5.

The group is a subcommittee of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee. Rita Williams is pageant coordinator.

Leigh Anne Downing is the reigning royalty.

Williams said the committee is encouraging all Creek ceremonial grounds, tribal towns, churches, communities, and schools to support candidates of their choosing, in order to have adequate representation from throughout the tribe.

Applications and eligibility requirements may be obtained from Williams, in the elderly nutrition office, at the tribal capitol complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56. Applications must be submitted to Williams in person or postmarked by April 1.

Return applications to: Attn. Rita Williams, Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Pageant, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK, 74447.

An orientation workshop will be hosted by the pageant committee and conducted by tribal National Council members from 10:30 a.m. to noon, May 15. Following lunch, an informal beauty care seminar will be conducted by professional cosmetologists from 1 to 3 p.m.

The pageant will be June 5, from 7 to 9 p.m., with a reception following. Both events will take place on the tribal capitol complex grounds.

Other committee members are: Stephanie Berryhill; Grace Bunner; Linda Downs; Cheryl Gonseth; and Diane Lowe. For more information, contact Williams or Downs at (918) 756-8700.

Annual Chehaw festival expecting 35,000 to attend this spring celebration

ALBANY, Ga. — Over 35,000 visitors along with Indians from throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico will gather at Chehaw Park in Albany for one of the nation's premier festivals, the Chehaw National Indian Festival held the third weekend in May. According to a press release "They will come to hear and witness the wisdom of the ages. A celebration of Mother Earth in honor of the Creek Nation."

Listed as a top 20 event by the Southeast Tourism Society for the past two years, the Chehaw National Indian Festival is becoming one of the largest Native American cultural festivals of its kind in the entire United States.

Beneath a canopy of huge oaks are: special demonstrations of blowgun making; Indian games; deer hide tanning; stone and wood carving; shell carving; finger weaving; basketry; ballstick making; flint napping; and many other Indian skills.

Visitors sample an assortment of delicious Indian foods, such as: Indian corn; fry bread; alligator tail; buffalo burgers; Seminole beef burgers; and Navajo tacos. Indian crafts are colorfully displayed for show and sale. Various crafts are displayed.

The main dance arena will be active with sights seldom seen by non-Indians. The traditional stomp dances of the Creeks, the war dances of the Sioux, and the Fire Dance of the Aztec are only a few to be performed. Also in the arena, tribal elders share ancient stories of wisdom, beauty, strength, love and respect.

This year will mark the largest gathering of the Creek Nation in this area since its removal on the Trail of Tears over 150 years ago. The entire festival is in honor of the Creek Nation.

For additional information call or write: 912-436-1625, Chehaw National Indian Festival Association, P.O. Box 3492, Albany, GA 31706-3492.

National Council confirms Mouss as new health system director at short January session

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council approved a new director for the tribe's health services at its regular January meeting.

The tribe's legislative body approved the direct hire of Ed Mouss as health director.

Mouss, a former Creek Nation executive director, was approved earlier this year through the intergovernmental personnel assistance program by the Council. He was employed with Indian Health Service as a management information specialist. IHS however, had been reluctant to relocate Mouss.

In other business, the Council:

— amended two previous ordinances to adjust compensation of jurors and changed the jury selection supervision to the election board secretary;

— returned to committee Eufaula Dormitory Board of Education nominee Kay Farrow for further consideration;

— passed a resolution supporting the City of Henryetta's effort to develop a theme park; and

— endorsed the efforts of Asbury, Brooks, and Canady, Inc., for their efforts to promote the economy. The firm was the first organization to be incorporated under tribal law.

For subscription information, contact the Creek Nation communications department at (918) 756-8700, or write P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Tribal religious briefs

Tulsa to host district meetings

TULSA — Among February activities for Tulsa United Indian Methodist Church is an arts and crafts-bake sale and a Valentine's Day party.

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Feb. 13 TUIMC is holding an arts and crafts-bake sale. The church will also be hosting an officers' training meeting for all UMW units within the Northeast District. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., Feb. 13.

At 6 p.m., Feb. 14 a church Valentine's Day party will be held.

The church is hosting the United Methodist Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference executive committee meeting of the UMW at 9 a.m., Feb. 20.

A wild onion dinner will be held from noon to 6 p.m., March 19.

The church's UMW recently elected new officers. Among officers are: Katie Scott, president; Ann Saunkeah, vice-president; and Hattie Daniels, secretary-treasurer. They were recognized and offered a blessing during the Feb. 7 worship service, said Pastor Taylor Harjo. Northeast District UMW President Josephine Deere installed the unit officers in an evening ceremony.

Twenty church evangelism committee members recently attended an evangelism workshop held at the church. Church evangelism committees represented were: Broken Arrow United Methodist Church, Rev. Timothy Byington; Mutteloke United Methodist Church, Rev. Jackie Davis; Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church, Rev. Ed Hinman; and TUIMC, Harjo. The workshop was conducted by Kevin Tulley, Boston Avenue United Methodist Church, Tulsa.

Harjo said the church has a food pantry which is stocked for families in need of groceries. He said TUIMC tries to assist needy individuals. If I can't assist them, I refer them to the proper resources, he said.

Harjo's office hours are from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the exception of afternoon visitation hours.

Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. The worship service begins at 11 a.m. Sunday school and worship services abide by the same schedule each Sunday. The church's communion service and fellowship dinner are held on the first Sunday of each month. The church is located at 1901 N. College.

Thlophlocco UMW to host Valentine's party

THLOPHTHOCCO — Thlophlocco United Methodist Church's United Methodist Women will be hosting a Valentine's Day party Feb. 14.

The party will begin at 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

The church is holding a wild onion dinner from 3 to 8 p.m., March 20. The all-you-can-eat-dinner costs \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 and under.

Second Sunday services will be held Feb. 21. Sunday school begins at 10 p.m. Worship services are held from 11 a.m. until noon, with dinner following.

The Thlophlocco UMW meet once monthly - each second Sunday following dinner.

Church board meetings are held each fourth Sun-

day beginning at 1:30 p.m.

The church is located eight miles south of Okemah on state highway 27 and 8 miles west of Wetumka on state highway 27.

Mutteloke to host Valentine's party

BRISTOW — Mutteloke United Methodist Church is holding a Valentine's Day party at 6 p.m., Feb. 14.

A Valentine's Day king and queen will be chosen, Pastor Jackie Davis said.

A revival will be held March 24 through 26, beginning at 7 p.m. nightly. The guest pastors are: March 24 - Jerry Byrd, Seminole Hitchitee United Methodist Church; March 25 - Ed Hinman, Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church; and March 26 - Sam Horse, West District.

The church is located at Tejon and Poplar streets.

Newtown UMW focus on outreach missions

OKMULGEE — The president of the United Methodist Women of Newtown United Methodist Church reported the unit is focusing its efforts on outreach missions.

The UMW recently sent money to Four Corners Navajo School and to Bolivia, president Lillie Cox said. She said Newtown holds special offerings for outreach missions.

The church completed remodeling its fellowship center in December, Cox said.

The church will hold its fourth Sunday communion and fellowship dinner Feb. 14. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. The worship service is held at 11 a.m., with the fellowship dinner following. Sunday evening service begins at 7 p.m. Church services remain on the same schedule each Sunday. Evening services are held at 7 p.m. each Wednesday.

To get to the church, turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56 in Okmulgee. Drive west to the stop sign and then south to the intersection of Okmulgee and Eufaula streets. Follow Eufaula Street three miles until the road curves north. The church is located one mile from the bend, on the east side of the road.

Big Cussetah slates fourth Sunday date

MORRIS — Big Cussetah United Methodist Church will hold its fourth Sunday service Feb. 14.

The church is located two miles east of loop 56 on U.S. Highway 62 (new Morris highway) and three and one-half miles south on Prairie Bell Road.

OIMC schedules district pastor's meeting

DEL CITY — Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Superintendent Tom Roughface has called a meeting of all Northeast District pastors attending the Perkins School of Theology in Dallas, Texas.

The meeting will begin at 10 a.m., Feb. 16 at Mary Lee Clark Memorial Church. Pastors are instructed to bring their coursework. Roughface has called the meeting to determine their coursework progress.

The church is located at 1100 Howard Drive.

Gospel singing to be held at Broken Arrow

BROKEN ARROW — Broken Arrow United Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing beginning at

7:30 p.m., Feb. 17. The church is located at 20824 E. 141st St.

Fife Memorial schedules gospel singing

MUSKOGEE — A Feb. 20 gospel singing is slated at Fife Memorial United Methodist Church. The singing will begin at 7 p.m.

A Valentine's party will be held for children at 7 p.m., Feb. 13.

Sunday school begins at 10 a.m. and the worship service starts at 11 a.m. Church service is held each Sunday. The church's communion service and fellowship dinner is held on the first Sunday of each month. The church is located at 901 E. Okmulgee.

Greenleaf holds monthly youth services

OKEMAH — Greenleaf Baptist Church is holding a youth service and social activities at 7 p.m., Feb. 22. The church's youth activities are held at 7 p.m. on the last Monday of each month at Okemah Indian Community Center.

The center is located two blocks south of Interstate 40 on state highway 27.

Little Cussetah fourth Sunday service set

SCHULTER — Fourth Sunday service will be held Feb. 28 at Little Cussetah United Methodist Church.

Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m., with worship service following at 11 p.m.

Turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and Wilson Road and drive two miles to the first intersection. Turn north and drive three-quarters of a mile. The church is located on the west side of the road.

Salt Creek to hold annual onion dinner

WETUMKA — Salt Creek United Methodist Church has scheduled its annual wild onion dinner for March 6.

The all-you-can-eat dinner will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. It costs \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Dinners and carry-outs are payable at time of entry.

An arts and crafts sale will also be held in conjunction with the dinner.

The church is located eight miles north on state highway 48 and two miles east of Holdenville or seven miles west on state highway 9 and two miles south of Wetumka.

Thewarle to hold onion dinner in Sapulpa

SAPULPA — Thewarle Baptist Church is holding a wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 6. The dinner costs \$4 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. The dinner will be held at the Sapulpa Historical Museum, 100 E. Lee.

Pickett Chapel prepares to hold onion dinner

SAPULPA — Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church is holding a wild onion dinner from noon to 6 p.m., March 13. The dinner will cost \$4.50.

From the intersection of Taft and Hickory streets, the church is located four and one-half miles south on Hickory Street. The church is located on the west side of the street.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

ETHEL McINTOSH

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Ethel McIntosh, 87, of Eufaula were held Dec. 29 at Black's Funeral Home with Rev. Jim Cunningham officiating. McIntosh died Dec. 25, 1992 at Muskogee Regional Medical Center. McIntosh was born Dec. 9, 1905, at Checotah, to Newton and Rosetta Morgan Prater. She grew up in the Brush Hill, Checotah, and Pierce areas. She graduated from Warner High School and attended Connors State College for two years. She received a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma.

She married Boney McIntosh in 1931 at Fane. She was baptized April 11, 1937 at Big Arbor Church. She taught school at Pierce for two years and at Stidham for 18 years. She was a member of Big Arbor Church and the Retired Teachers Association.

Survivors include: her husband of 60 years, Rev. Boney McIntosh of the home; three daughters, Kaniah J. and her husband George McIntosh of Muskogee, Ellen Wanaka Burks of Arlington, Texas, and M. Wacola and her husband Archie East of Poco Moke City, Md.; five sisters, Edna Beard of Prairie Grove, Ark., Marie Ross and Alta Davis both of Westville, Katherin Etchison of Siloam Springs, Ark., and Eloise Davis of Summers, Ark.; one brother, Warren Prater of Pryor; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

McIntosh was preceded in death by: her parents; a daughter, Cheneya Marie McIntosh; three sisters, Margie Baughman, Emma Odom, and Elsie Ethison; and one brother Benny Prater.

Burial was in the Hawkins-McIntosh Cemetery near Stidham. Pallbearers were: Wallace Brasuell; Leo Brasuell; Vann D. McIntosh; Phillip McIntosh; Abe McIntosh; Dr. Stanley P. McIntosh; Dr. Raley D. McIntosh; and Stacey McIntosh.

JAMES L. DALGARN

EUFAULA — Funeral services for James L. Dalgran, 69, of Durango, Colo. were held Jan. 2 at Merritt Funeral Chapel with Rev. Gary Hawkins officiating. Song service was Jan. 1. The graveside service was officiated by Rev. Amos Bean.

Dalgran died Dec. 26, 1992 in Durango. He was born Nov. 21, 1923 to John and Firsey Mitchell Dalgarn in Eufaula. He married Sue Bear in 1947 at Fort Smith, Ark. Dalgarn was a graduate of Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. He retired from the Bureau of Indian Affairs after teaching at Eufaula Indian Boarding School. He then taught school in Chinle, Ariz. Dalgarn's teaching career spanned 38 years. He was a veteran, having served in the Army during World War II.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; and a sister, Helen Rice. He is survived by: his wife, Sue; a daughter, Sharon Franz of Durango; a son, Robert Dalgarn of Shawnee; one brother, John Dalgarn of Miami; four grandchildren; a host of relatives; and friends.

Burial was in the Greenwood Cemetery.

TOMMY MATNEY

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Tommy Louis Matney Jr., 41, of Sapulpa were held at the Smith Funeral Chapel. Matney was born March 11, 1951 in Sapulpa. He was a life-long resident of Sapulpa and was employed by Southland Corporation. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War and was a member of the Church of God.

Survivors include: his wife, Rita; daughters, Lori Matney of Missouri, DeAnna Bradshaw of Tulsa, Eva Connings of Missouri, Jeanette Colley of Glenpool, Amy Taylor of Mead, and Debra Mondier of the home; a son, Tommy L. Matney of the home; brothers, Billy, Bobby, Buddy, and Jerry, all of Sapulpa; and six grandchildren.

BENJAMIN HARRISON SEVIER

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Benjamin Harrison Sevier Sr., 80, were held Jan. 21 at the Merritt Cottage Chapel with Rev. Chris Harjo officiating the service.

He was born June 16, 1912 to Louis and Amanda Thompson Sevier in Hitchita and died Jan. 19 in Tulsa.

In November 1937 he married Nora Ellen Clark in Okmulgee. He was a laborer. He served during World War II and was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Little Coweta Baptist Church.

Survivors include: three daughters Shirley Sevier of Guthrie, Carolyn Powell of Okmulgee, and Phyllis Johnson of Broken Arrow; two sons, Ben H. Sevier Jr. and Tom Sevier, both of Tulsa; three brothers, Tom Sevier of Maud, Louis "Buster" Sevier of Hitchita, and Charles Sevier of Okmulgee; one sister, Lena Sevier of Hitchita; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and a host of loving nieces; nephews; and friends.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; wife, Nora Sevier on Aug. 29, 1955; two sisters, Annie and Blanche; and one brother, Willie.

Pallbearers were: Louie Dean Sevier; James Sevier; David Johnson; Rocky Hood; Mike Hood; and Alvin Potts.

DAWNNA RAE BERRYHILL

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Dawnna Rae Berryhill, 53, of Sapulpa were held Jan. 7 at the Webb-Schumacher Chapel with Rev. Hiawatha Fixico officiating.

Berryhill was born July 13, 1939 in Tahlequah and was a former resident of Okemah. She died Jan. 3 in Oklahoma City.

Survivors include: her mother, Martha Berryhill of Sapulpa; one daughter, Cathy Mohamed of Bedford, Texas; three brothers, George and Tony Berryhill both of Sapulpa, and Alfred Berryhill of Okemah; three sisters, Sherry Gourd of Okemah, Charlotte Berryhill of Chicago, Ill., and Lisa Berryhill of Tulsa; and grandsons, William and Chad Suminski.

Interment was in the Highland Cemetery.

JAMES WATASHE SR.

KELLYVILLE — Funeral services for James Watashe Sr., 87, were held in his home Dec. 28 and at the Community Indian Baptist Church Dec. 29 with the Revs. Truit Johns and Newman Kelly officiating. Watashe died Dec. 24 at St. Francis Hospital, Tulsa.

Burial was in the Sunrise Cemetery. He was born Dec. 15, 1905 in Creek County, Indian Territory to Watashe and Rosa Holder Watashe. He worked at Liberty Glass for 19 years and at Oaks Country Club until he retired. He was a member of the Community Indian Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Edith Waltrip Watashe; and a son, Andrew Watashe.

Survivors include: sons, Louis Watashe, James Watashe Jr., Lawrence Watashe, and Roman Watashe; and a daughter, Dorothy Watashe Lee; a step-son, Smith Williams Jr.; a step-daughter, Neta June Bailey; 33 grandchildren;

and 90 great-grandchildren; 31 great-great-grandchildren; and five step-grandchildren.

ADA DEO

HANNA — Funeral services for Ada Simmons Deo, 84, of Hanna were held Dec. 21 at Weogufkee Baptist Church with Rev. Jimmy Anderson officiating. She died Dec. 18, 1992 in Okmulgee. Wake services were held at First Baptist Church, Hanna, with Rev. James Rudolph Colbert officiating. Deo was born June 27, 1908 in Hanna to George and Martha Simmons.

Deo was a homemaker and a member of the Weogufkee Baptist Church. She was an arts and crafts teacher for the Este Muscogee Organization, a Sunday school teacher, superintendent of Weogufkee Sunday school and served as first vice-president of the Women's Missionary Union of the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association. She also helped establish Wekiwa Baptist Church, Sand Springs in 1951.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Amos Deo, in May of 1991; and her parents.

Survivors include: one son, Thomas J. Deo of Hanna; two foster daughters, Amy Bruner of Holdenville, and Susie Harjo of Okmulgee; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

JONATHAN JACOB LEWIS

HANNA — Funeral services for Jonathan Jacob "George Deere" Lewis, 47, of Oklahoma City were held at Hillabee Baptist Church with Johnson Roberts officiating. Lewis died Jan. 5 in Oklahoma City.

Lewis was born Oct. 29, 1945 in Talihina. He married Sally Mitchell in March of 1972 at Oklahoma City and worked as a welder.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, Lonnie Deere and Leana Lewis; stepfather, Martin Mitchell Sr.; two grandchildren, Tristan Dean Deere and Beth Celeste Hicks.

Survivors include: his wife, Sally Lewis of Oklahoma City; two daughters, Luann Mitchell and Jennifer Deere, both of Oklahoma City; two sons, Franklin Deere and George Deere Jr., both of Oklahoma City; three brothers, Charles Ray Mitchell of Glenpool, Martin Mitchell Jr. of Oklahoma City, and Kenneth Deere of Wetumka; three sisters, Marilyn Proctor of Tulsa, Jeri McIntosh of Oklahoma City, and Lula Spainard of Glenpool; and one grandson, Charlie Joe Hicks III.

Burial was in the Hanna Cemetery. Pallbearers were: George McIntosh; Rick McIntosh; Charlie Hicks; Cornelius McIntosh Jr.; Mike Spainard; and Benjamin Spainard.

TOBY YAHOLA

YEAGER — Funeral services for Toby Yahola, 73, of Oklahoma City were held at Pecan Grove Methodist Church with the Revs. Malcolm and Joseph Tiger officiating. He was born March 1, 1919 in Hughes County to Henry and Emma Shipley Yahola. He died Dec. 22, 1992 in Oklahoma City.

Yahola grew up in Hughes County, attending Pecan Grove School. In 1942, he entered the United States Army and served during World War II. He married Lucy Smith Aug. 20, 1961 and lived in Hughes County. She preceded him in death Jan. 13, 1992.

Yahola was a longtime member of Pecan Grove Methodist Church where he served as a deacon.

Survivors include: a daughter, Jo Murphy of Shawnee; son-in-law, W.H. Murphy; two brothers, Miller Yahola of Oklahoma City, and Harry Yahola of Shawnee; a sister, Susie Harjo of Bowlegs; three grandchildren; several nieces; nephews; and other relatives.

Burial was in the Yahola Family Cemetery.



Watashe

Crow comments on spirit of inauguration

continued from page 2

highest responsibility of the interior department."

There was an atmosphere of unity, happiness, and encouragement that all Americans were waiting to hear all over Washington D.C.

After arriving back in Oklahoma, I immediately ran into a minority of people who stated negative things about the new president.

I began to remember what my father, a master sergeant who served in the European Theater, told me about negative people and gossip. He said that he always respected his commanding officers and that in the way of the military you do not have time to gossip in order to accomplish your goals of survival and winning the war.

May we pray to the Creator to bless our new president to lead us into a better world for all people.

As a nation within a nation let us continue to pray for tribal leaders to work with the new president to improve relationships with the federal government.

I would also like to salute our elders who have served this nation under the leadership of several presidents and tribal leaders.

One of these elders is my grandfather, Joe Beaver, an original allottee and full-blood Creek, born Feb. 22, 1901.

Happy birthday, gramps, and I thank you for your leadership and blessing on me to serve our citizens.

Community offers social services

continued from page 4

each Monday. The office is located at 711 S.W. 29th.

- The association offers social service assistance to area Creeks who meet the association's eligibility requirements. Among assistance provided is: emergency food vouchers; utility; rental; and eyeglass assistance. The first Monday of each month is restricted to elders and first-time applicants.

- A Mvskoke language class is held at 7 p.m. each Thursday. Eliza Pena is the class instructor.

Religion briefs

continued from page 10

Honey Creek to host elders meeting

HONEY CREEK — Honey Creek United Methodist Church will be hosting the Northeast District Senior Methodists' quarterly meeting April 4 — also its second Sunday. The church's fourth Sunday service is Feb. 21. Morning worship service is at 11 a.m. Dinner is served after the morning service and followed by Sunday school at 1 p.m.

To get to the church from Okmulgee, drive four miles west on state highway 56. Drive south three and one-half miles and turn west and follow detour road for one and one-half miles. Drive west to the old Honey Creek store and turn south. The church is located on the west side of the road. From Wilson Public Schools, drive north and turn west just before detour sign. Keep driving west until reaching old Honey Creek store and then turn south.

Letters to the editor

continued from page 2

gain weight. Some days she would not have the energy to even walk, so we would have to carry her. As a last resort, the doctors placed her in a behavioral hospital.

That's when we decided we had to look for something that would not hurt her and have lasting effects on her health. We contacted a fellow tribal member who gave us the contact for the miracle. You have the miracle in your medicine man Dave Lewis. We have our daughter back after everyone else had given up hope.

She is gaining weight and has the energy which we thought we would never see again. One thing Lewis could give us, that no medical doctor could, was the caring and the goodness of his heart. People can't believe the difference in our daughter. Please don't wait until all hope is given up — see your medicine man first. We are a much stronger family now.

Deanne Barr, Reserve, Kan.

Okmulgee man takes exception with government Editor:

According to recent publications in the local media, the Okmulgee County Commissioners are venturing out into administration of a \$350,000 housing rehabilitation grant program through the Deep Fork Community Action and the U.S. Department of

Housing and Urban Affairs, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, and the Eastern Oklahoma Development District.

Before applications are submitted, I would suggest that these same elected county commissioners do a bit of legal homework or seek advice from a competent attorney (if possible). We continue hearing about the infamous \$205,000 someone apparently lost and the demand for recovery of the \$400,000 loan to Heatherly Mining, Inc. seems to be neglected.

In addition, they may want to seek a second legal opinion relative to the April 29, 1991 taxpayer request for the recovery of some \$5.39 million in public funds before moving into uncharted territory.

My opinion is that before taking up this new business, they should make an attempt at the recovery of the \$105,000 burden attached to our ad valorem, in 1977, when the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce defaulted on their Southside Industrial Park loan agreement.

At least somebody should make public the required citizen participation plan. I do not believe the public would have permitted the \$60,000 land donation to Creek Nation if ordinary citizens would have been allowed to participate in what our governmental officers were doing for our benefit in 1981.

Wasn't that land to have been the site for a community building? What happened to that project?

James Burruss, Okmulgee

Cloud stays active in politics and cattle industry

continued from page 1

was the drought that we suffered for five years — it eliminated a lot of good cattlemen because they had to sell at a low market — they just couldn't survive it, but we did." He added, "also, when Bang's disease was taking its toll in the cattle industry, the ranch was the only one in Creek County that tested Bang's-free."

A life time member of the American Hereford Association, Cloud said he has had the satisfaction of having bred good cattle that have, in turn, satisfied his buyers and the stockyards. "I have purchased cattle from the best ranches — like: Watson, in Morris; Hammertree, in Hanna; Turner, in Sulphur; and Wildhorse Ranch, in Boynton — for the purposes of updating my herd for breeding. I have also sold cattle to Creek tribal members."

Educated at Chilocco Indian School, Cloud retired from the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers after 35 years as a licensed electrician in 1981. He served as president of the Tulsa Local 584 for six years and was on the executive board for four years. He remarked that the milestone of his career as an electrician was when he organized a retirement club for retired electricians in Tulsa. "They still invite me to their dinners," he said.

Involvement with the Creek Nation has been a subject close to the rancher's heart, as it provided an opportunity to work for and among his people. Cloud is Creek and Yuchi. His father was David Cloud, full-blood Creek-Yuchi, and his mother was Minnie Scott, seven-eighths Creek, of Weleetka.

"I became involved with the tribe 16 years ago through the Creek Nation Rodeo Club and then I was appointed by the chief to the housing board and later

to the Supreme Court," he said. Cloud had served on the Council for 12 years when he was elected Council speaker last year.

The future of the tribe, Cloud feels, is good because of Chief Fife's economic policy.

"We are looking at several viable economic development projects and there is a good possibility we can put many of our people to work. We also have plans to develop our tribally held lands for further economic growth," he said.

Cloud commended the cooperative spirit that now exists between the Council and the administration. "We, the National Council, and the administration are now working closely and cooperatively together to make a better future for all Creek people."

A typical day for the 72-year-old rancher-statesman, includes rising early to mind the day's business at Cloud Five Ranch. He is then off to the capitol complex, in Okmulgee, where he will spend the majority of each weekday.

At the end of the day he returns to the ranch where the "simple pleasures" provide him with a sense of perspective that keeps his life in balance.

Fife stresses community development, greater efficiency

continued from page 1

Fife said the tribe's role is significant in chartered Creek community development. He noted that his administration assisted tribal communities in developing management systems for greater accountability and organizational stability also.



The Muscogee Nation News

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March 1993, 8 pages

Creeks' agreement with Choctaws awarded first contract

Contract puts tribe on "cutting edge"

OKMULGEE — A joint tribal venture has been awarded a contract for the manufacturing and assembly of cable machines for a super collider project.

Choctaw-Creek Technologies, a joint venture between the Mississippi Band of Choctaws and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, has been awarded a contract to manufacture and assemble two cable measuring machines for the superconducting supercollider project near Waxahachie, Texas. The contract has a total value of \$156,000 with an option to purchase four additional cable measuring systems worth \$296,000.

Principal chief Bill Fife signed the agreement with Choctaw chief Phillip Martin Feb. 16 in Washington D.C.

"The Creek Nation is fortunate enough to have such a capable partner in Chief Martin and the Mississippi Choctaws," Fife said. "Out of this venture will emerge a viable enterprise positively affecting our local economies as well as providing high technology jobs. We envision this as a major step toward tribal self-sufficiency."

The business arrangement between the two tribes is one of the first of its kind.

"The Creek Nation is one of the most progressive tribes in America, along with the Mississippi Choctaws," said Jerry Wilson, Creek Nation executive director. "For the two of us to combine resources will improve the quality of life for our tribal members. Our joint venture will also serve as a national model for other tribes."

Wilson said that chief Fife wants the Creek Nation to get in on the "cutting edge of technology."

"Chief Fife knows that if this tribe is to meet the demands and needs of the people, we must keep up with current technology," Wilson said. "Manufacturing components for the super collider project is certainly in step with the chief's goals for the Creek Nation."

There have been some calls to Washington D.C. for the president to cease funding the collider project, but Wilson believes the project will continue to be funded.

The Creeks enter the joint venture through its Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing Enterprises. The Choctaws operate Choctaw Manufacturing Enterprises.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife accepted awards from the Alliance of Indigenous People of Oklahoma and the University of Oklahoma for the tribe's support of sovereignty. "Sovereignty is not negotiable," Fife said. "This award reflects the leadership that the National Council and this administration has shown in maintaining our sovereign status against state pressure." The award from the university is signed by 140 students and instructors commending the tribe for 500 years of resistance. The awards were presented at the Amnesty International Conference in Tulsa held in February.

photo by Jim Wolfe



Tribe opens Holdenville bingo hall

HOLDENVILLE — They're playing high stakes bingo in the Hughes-Seminole district.

The grand opening of Creek Nation Holdenville Bingo was Feb. 13. On hand were Creek chief Bill Fife and several tribal officials.

The Holdenville facility is the third one to be operated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board. The tribe is expected to open its fourth bingo hall in Muskogee this spring. The board has oversight responsibility for the Tulsa and Okmulgee bingo operations. The tribe also licenses community-operated facilities in Bristow, Checotah, and Eufaula.

"The chief is pleased to bring employment opportunities to the Hughes District," said Jerry Wilson, the tribe's executive director. "Not only are we generating income for the tribe and the community, we're bringing a service to the Holdenville market."

Wilson said the Holdenville hall offers an entertainment alternative in the Hughes-Seminole District.

"Obviously, a market for entertainment exists there. This has been a long time coming. People can now participate in a comfortable environment doing something they can enjoy," Wilson said.

The Holdenville hall, located in the remodeled community center at 416 E. Poplar, seats 300. Sessions are available to area bingo players on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

"This project was a cooperative effort that was

initiated through a request by the Holdenville Indian Community board, supported by the National Council, and the gaming operations authority board," Wilson said.

"We're very pleased that the gaming operations authority board assumed this additional management responsibility," Wilson said. "They've been doing a great job managing our bingo halls."

Gaming board members are Ken Childers, Rocky McIntosh, and Sonny O'Hern. Joe Fox is the hall's temporary manager. He will assume the manager's position at the Muskogee hall when it opens.

Doors open at 5 p.m. with games starting at 6 p.m. The regular session begins at 7 p.m. Megabingo games, broadcast by Gamma International, Ltd. from the Tulsa bingo hall, became available to Holdenville March 6.

Wilson said he would be very pleased if a tribal citizen won the million dollar payout for megabingo.

"I think it's very significant that people can now play for \$1 million at Holdenville. Satellite technology is giving us that capability," Wilson said.

The facility employs 20.

Wilson added that the experience of establishing the Holdenville bingo hall can lead to other profit-making ventures.

"This kind of entrepreneurial activity is good for the

please see HOLDENVILLE..., page 8

Letters to the editor

Oklmulgee rep wants better attendance

Editor:

Last week, we voted on some very important bills with nine Council representatives being absent.

Where are these Council representatives that are supposed to be supporting the people? These meetings are very important.

One vote for the people could make a big difference. These representatives get paid regardless if they attend a meeting or not. Why should they care?

Remember, all Council seats will be open in 1994. Check your list and don't forget to vote in the next election.

Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee

Louisiana man seeks relatives

Editor:

We are looking for families who connect to: Annie Stewart; Absalom Cornells; Ahahloka; Hummecher; and Lihtiffee. All are listed on the original Creek allotment rolls and old settlers' roll. If your family history goes back to any of these names, please write: P.O. Box 923, Kinder, LA 70648.

Vance Beaver, Kinder, La.

Citizen agrees with Litsey

Editor:

I agree with Charlie Litsey. Let the retired stay retired and give the younger men a chance.

I have a grandson who has tried for two years to get a job at the Creek complex or something related. He is Creek with a high school diploma, but, alas, no college degree. And someone thinks that makes the difference. He has repeatedly been told to come back later. That doesn't put money in his pocket, buy him food, or allow him rent money. Again, it's who you know that makes the difference!

Thanks to Santa Claus, the clothing allowance was great, and greatly appreciated.

Betty Greenhaw, Okmulgee

Juvenile accused of murder writes

Editor:

My name is Robert W. Mitchell. I am a Creek-Seminole Indian. At the age of 15, I was accused of murder in the first-degree — a crime I didn't commit, but the judicial system says I did.

At the time I'm writing this I'm at home. There was a time in the last three and one-half months I was unable to say that. The Christmas present I prayed for this past year was just to be home.

When I turned 16, I was sitting in a lonely cold cell at a juvenile detention center in McAlester, a suspect. From Sept. 4 to Dec. 23, my life was not my own. Being a teenager, it is not the life I wanted, but because of the court system and law enforcement, I lost my freedom. At the time of my arrest I was scared and angry. I knew I wasn't guilty, so I felt the judge and district attorney would let me go, but that wasn't so. It was unbelievable. I was taken away from my family.

During the time I was held in the detention center was another experience. You weren't allowed to talk to the other kids. You weren't allowed to go to the

bathroom alone, or even take a shower. A visit from two family members was limited to 15 minutes a week. Phone calls were limited to five minutes and were monitored. At times I would feel angry and hatred at the people who put me there. I felt that they only looked at me as a teenager in trouble and being Indian. When watching TV our eyes had to be on the set at all times.

During my course of detention, I went through different court hearings. I was brought to the courthouse with leg shackles on, a chain around my waist, and handcuffed. The police officers didn't care if I was innocent, that was their rules. I kept hoping the judge would release me and know that I was innocent, but it wasn't so. The district attorney tried to put me in prison for life without parole, and I didn't understand why. The only time I felt justice on my side was when I was certified as a juvenile.

I'm home now, but that's not the end of my story. I'm still waiting to go to trial. I'm only home because the appeals court upheld a statute for juveniles. It states a juvenile cannot be held in detention over 90 days if they have not been "adjudicated of delinquency or disposition in their case." Only through my experience have I learned a lot about the judicial system the hard and painful way.

Teenagers, it's not fun. I thank my God for answering prayers. I'm very lucky to have a loving grandma and parents who supported me all the way. The belief in me from relatives and friends kept me strong. A special thanks to the churches who prayed for me and gave encouraging words to my grandma, dad and step-mom. A special thanks to all of those who helped me and my family and for looking into my case and for being at my court hearings.

Robert Mitchell, Tecumseh

Citizen takes exception with procedure

Editor:

Recently I met Lisa Tiger, daughter of the late Jerome Tiger. She was speaking with students about her travels around the country to educate young people about AIDS. As I listened to her, I began to wonder what type of funding she receives from Creek Nation in her efforts to educate our youth. She told me Creek Nation offered her a job, but she was unable to except, because she wants to educate the people. In doing so, this requires her to travel extensively.

If Creek Nation is willing to give Lisa a job, why not still fund her with her efforts. She didn't take the job, so what? What Lisa is doing takes a large amount of courage, time, and money. This issue is very important especially in this day and age.

And from what I've learned and the research I've done, funding has always been a problem with Creek Nation. Funding is difficult, even for our people who are representing the tribe. Creek Nation hasn't always funded our representatives. For example, when we choose a young lady to represent us as our honored Creek princess, one would think that all expenses would be paid by the tribe — especially when she travels to other Indian happenings or events. But that's not the case with our tribe. In some cases the Creek princess had to foot her own bill for lodging. Is this how we treat our own people? But I'm sure there are more cases of non-funding of our representatives, if I were to do more research. But I'm not looking to embarrass the

Council or princess committee — they seem to be doing a good job by themselves.

If we as a people are to be proud of our tribe, our leaders must learn the old values of our forefathers — to take care of our own elders and meet the unique needs of our people first. Sure some of these values are there, but they aren't always practiced.

But as I wrote before, what Lisa is doing takes courage. I just hope and pray that our Council will find that same courage to make funding available for Lisa and others. I understand that most of the corruption was caused by the Claude Cox administration and there were numerous changes made. I'll just put it all in the hands of our Creator. I know with hard prayer good things can happen with our new Fife administration.

Remember — don't wait until it's too late to help Lisa with her goal. Lisa is giving us a gift, a gift of learning. This gift can be very beneficial to our young people.

Mark Berryhill, Lawrence, Kan.

Editor's note: There is no comment on personnel matters. The past princess committee was given the responsibility of overseeing the activities of the Creek Nation Princess in 1989.

At that time, the committee established the following travel guidelines for the princess: 1) all travel will be approved by the committee; 2) per diem will be given to the princess according to federal travel guidelines; 3) the need for a chaperone will be made on the nature of the event and the age of the princess; 4) a travel schedule will be provided of the events which the princess is expected to attend; 5) mileage will be given at .24 per mile (or at the current federal regulation.) Mileage will begin at the tribal complex to the event and back to the complex; and 6) any unscheduled travel must be approved by the committee. If approved, the princess will receive a reimbursement.

The princess was required to submit completed mileage vouchers. Funding for the yearly expense of the princess was provided through budgeted funds from the Creek Nation Festival Committee. Festival funds were appropriated from the National Council.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News, a member of the Native American Journalists Association, is the official monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation administration and its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address. Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of each month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

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Muscogee Nation administration
principal chief: Bill Fife
second chief: Shelly Crow
executive director: Jerry Wilson

The Muscogee Nation News
writer: Jim Wolfe
writer: Stephanie Berryhill
typesetter: Anita Freeman

Tribal notices

Eufaula man to lead industrial board

OKMULGEE — Frank Kamp has been selected as chair of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Industrial Development Board.

Kamp of Eufaula, is a former National Council representative. He will lead the five-member board. Kamp said the board is charged primarily with considering potential investments and other economic development projects for the tribe. Others on the board are: J.D. Colbert and Mike McCoy, both of Tulsa; and Donald Stidham of Checotah.



Kamp

Housing authority to inventory

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Housing Authority will be conducting a thorough inventory examination of all equipment purchased by the housing authority. Should it determine that any equipment is missing, an investigation of missing property will be conducted. Individuals possessing housing authority equipment, should contact (918) 756-8504 to make arrangements for the return of this property.

Family services relocates

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration has relocated to the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee campus. Its new location is 1801 E. 4th St. The offices are located on the first floor of Lackey Hall. The administration's phone number remains (918) 756-2112 or 1 (800) 521-5432.

Housing program to survey in March

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be assessing housing conditions of randomly selected citizens' homes. If your home is selected, a surveyor, with official identification, will make a site visit. The purpose of the survey is to document housing needs. The data will be used to apply for increased funding for Indian housing. "Citizen participation will be of considerable benefit to all Creeks," said Henry Harjo, home improvement program manager. For more information, call Harjo at (918) 756-8700, ext. 380.

Student motivation conference set

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration is sponsoring a motivational youth conference March 27 from 1 to 5:30 p.m. at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee Covelle Hall. Registration begins at noon. A dance will be held from 7:30 to 11 p.m. All Indian students attending grades seven through 12 are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Irene Culley at (918) 756-2112.

Program accepting school applications

OKMULGEE — Applications for the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee summer trimester will be accepted March 15 through April 20 at the Job Training Partnership Act Program Office at the tribal capitol complex at U.S. highway 75 and loop 56 in Okmulgee. For more information, contact the JTPA department at (918) 756-8700.

Tulsa District race down to two

Bruner, Rhodes meet in run-off election

TULSA — Bim Stephen Bruner and Donna Rhodes will face each other in an April 3 run-off election for Tulsa District representative to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

Bruner of Broken Arrow, received 225 votes to 126 for Rhodes of Glenpool.

The pair bested Edwin Moore and Carol Morris, both of Tulsa, in a Feb. 20 general election.

The pair are seeking to complete the term of former Tulsa District rep. Jerry Wilson. Wilson, the former second speaker, resigned to become the tribe's executive director.

Precinct locations are: Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center, 6363 East 31st St.; and Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center, 13829 S. Casper Road or one block north of U.S. Highway 75 and 141st St. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board at 756-8700.

The candidates

Candidate: Bim Stephen Bruner

Personal: 43; son of Elliot and Leda Vee Bruner; wife, Carol Jean McElroy; three children

Church: First United Methodist, Broken Arrow

Tribal town: Loca Poka

Clan: Bear

Education-experience: Broken Arrow High School; associate's degree in police science, Tulsa Junior College; 120 hours of college credit from the University of Tulsa, Northeastern State University, and the

University of Oklahoma; U.S. Army veteran; Tulsa Police Department canine training; Tulsa Police Department veteran; have served on various boards of youth programs; manager of store operations, Native American Trading Co., Inc.

Reason for seeking office: I am aggressively seeking office because I am uniquely qualified to sit on any decision-making body. I can make sound, rational, and progressive decisions. My educational background and unique life experience has given me a strong desire to see that everyone is treated fairly and honestly.



Bruner

I will not be out-worked in research. I have no hidden agenda. I am not angry at anyone. I am not a single-issue candidate. I will vote for items that I truly feel will benefit the entire tribe.

I am not anyone's puppet. I am a free thinker. I owe no political favors and nothing is owed me. I am for a sound, stable economic base.

I am not a professional politician nor do I desire to be one. I am a direct product of Indian assistance programs. I am better off today because other Indian people took the time and [made an] effort to assist me. It is time to repay these hard working people. I can help accomplish that goal by being elected to the National Council.

Candidate: Donna Rhodes

Personal: 49; daughter of Jesse and the late Margaret Alexander Freeman

Church: Newtown United Methodist Church

Tribal town:

Tukabatchee

Clan: Tiger

Education-experience:

Served two terms as Tulsa District representative to the National Council; Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo Committee; bachelor's degree in business administration, Northeastern State University; credits from Tulsa Junior College; past president of the National Indian Education Association; appointed to the White House Conference on Indian Education; George Washington University Indian Policy and Research Advisory Committee; founder of Tulsa Indian Youth Council; Indian Health Care Resource Center; Indian Women Consultants; Glenpool Creek Indian Community Treasurer; and employed as minority program coordinator, American Red Cross.

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking office for two reasons. My experience and my knowledge of tribal government qualify me. I have an extensive knowledge of the internal workings of tribal government as well as an active involvement in the Indian community. This will ensure you better representation in your tribe. Please look over my experience and vote for me a qualified representative.

I will support stronger education, community development, job development, health programs, economic programs, and cultural programs.



Rhodes

State, area briefs

Baby contest accepting entries

TULSA — A statewide baby photograph contest for Indian children is accepting entries. This is the first year for the statewide baby photograph contest. According to a press release, the contest organizers intend to make this an annual event. Entrants should be able to document Indian heritage with a tribal enrollment card or certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB) upon request. The top four finishers will be awarded. Entry deadline is March 19. The entry photos will be on display March 20 at a location to be announced later. The contest is restricted to babys 0-2 years of age. A \$5 donation is required per entry. For more information, call (918) 245-3944.

Indian affairs commission relocates

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission Office has relocated to: 4545 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 282, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Phone: (405) 521-3828; facsimile: (405) 531-0902.

Minority outreach conference set

TULSA — The eighth annual Oklahoma minority outreach, information, and referral conference is set for March 17 through 19 at the Sheraton-Kensington Hotel. The conference is staged to promote the effective delivery of services to minority elderly. The cost of the conference is \$30. The conference is funded in part by the special unit on aging and the state department of Human Services. For more information, contact LaDonna Bornemann at (405) 521-2281 or Joanne Burdick at (918) 832-9999.

Communities active with wild onion dinners

compiled by Stephanie Berryhill

Muskogee Council member crowned queen

- Muskogee Indian Community members Lee and Helen Chupco were recently crowned Muskogee Indian Community Valentine's king and queen.

Community members presented the couple with a Western Sizzlin gift certificate. Mrs. Chupco is also a Muskogee District representative to the National Council.

The festivity participants were entertained with songs sang by Homemade Quartet. Reporter Naomi Thompson said the community center was decorated with Valentines and pictures of the community's elder members. Elderly nutrition program cooks Lucille Squirrel and Lela Bella presented gifts to the center decorators.

- Thompson reported that the community Christmas dinner was enjoyed by all attending. Mary Ankrom, Mary and Jeanna Barnett decorated the center with Christmas decorations. The community expressed its appreciation by honoring them with gifts. The nutrition program cooks were presented with cash gifts from community members.

- Thompson said the elders are appreciative of meals prepared by Squirrel and Bella. "There are two special ladies putting out tasty meals. [They cook everything] from country cooking to Indian tacos. [The] only thing missing is sofke, tomfola or kanachi."

Thompson reported that Indians of all blood quantum and tribes have been participating in the nutrition program since it opened over a year ago. She said the elders have a unique "chow line" system. Mary Barnett serves as "chow line deputy." Thompson said Barnett has a system in which numbers are utilized. She calls out numbers and those sitting at tables with corresponding numbers line up accordingly. Barnett also is aided by a hand siren which helps her indicate lunch is ready. "[The] first time it sounded, we all thought a police car drove inside. I held up my arms, thinking they caught up with me," Thompson joked.

Elders who weren't familiar with the system got "out of line," Thompson said. "But the deputy stood on her two feet acting tougher than an army sergeant."

- Thompson also reported Mrs. Chupco has been teaching basket making classes. Community member and tribal community services director Harley Little received a "big A" for three baskets he made, she said.

Okmulgee smokeshop holds opening celebration

- Okmulgee Indian Community will be holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for its smokeshop at 11 a.m., March 19.

The Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors will be present to offer city representation during the ceremony, chair Bernice Hale said. The smokeshop has been in operation since late January and is located at 1507 S. Wood Drive. The community recently held a grand opening week for the smokeshop March 1 through 5.

- The community will be holding a followup membership meeting during its regular March 8 meeting. Grocery bingo will be held following the meeting.

- The Marshall family will be holding a wild onion dinner at the community center from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., March 13. The cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Additional wild onions will be for sale. The benefit dinner will help fund the Marshall family reunion. The center is

located one quarter of a mile east of U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

- In early March, Hale reported the officers began holding community constitution amendment meetings. Hale said the officers plan to seek technical assistance from Steve Landsberry, tribal community organization department manager.

Wetumka elders tour Seminole museum

- Wetumka Indian Community elders recently toured the Seminole Nation Museum.

Eleven elders participated in the excursion.

- Thirty Wetumka High School and junior high Indian club students held a Valentine's party at the center in early February.

Hanna holds monthly grocery bingo game

- Hanna Indian Community will hold its monthly bingo game at 7 p.m., April 3. After April the games will discontinue for the ceremonial ground dance season. The center is located two and one-fourth miles east of Hanna's main street.

Glenpool board schedules wild onion dinner

- Glenpool Creek Indian Community is holding a wild onion dinner from noon to 4 p.m., March 13 in the community activity building.

The cost is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children six and under. Advance tickets are \$5 for adults. Takeout is available. For more information, call (918) 291-5300 or (918) 291-6889.

Artisans may set-up arts and crafts booths for a \$10 fee. For more information, call Pauline Haney at (918) 291-6889 or (918) 322-5016.

- The Oklahoma Indian Theatre and Dance Company, Sand Springs, will be holding a powwow in the activity building March 20. Gourd dancing will be held from 2 to 5:30 p.m. with supper following. The powwow will begin following the supper. Proceeds from the powwow will benefit the theatre and dance company.

- The community has scheduled family awareness workshops throughout the month of April. The workshops will be held at 7 p.m. each Tuesday in the activity building. On April 1, Creek Nation social services manager Rhonda Cochran will discuss substance abuse. On April 8, Lisa Tiger and Mary Smith, American Red Cross, Tulsa, will discuss human immunodeficiency virus. A puppet show addressing HIV will also be presented by Seminole Nation health care professionals. The activity building is located one block north of U.S. Highway 75 and 141st St.

Kellyville to hold wild onion dinner

- Kellyville Indian Community is holding a wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 6.

The community center is located two miles north of Kellyville on U.S. Highway 66.

- Community members celebrating February and March birthdays are Nannie and Timmy Scott and Ronnie Brown.

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration employee Carolyn Bigpond presented a child abuse prevention video at the February regular meeting. Nicki Brown was the winner of the regular meeting doorprize. Roy Bear, Creek District representative to the National Council, and five guests attended the meeting, reporter Christine Reeder said.

Bristow to hold election of officers

- Bristow Indian Community will be holding an election of officers during March. An election date has not been set. Chair Judy Riley has instructed members to read the Bristow News Record and Bristow Citizen for an election news release.

To qualify to vote, members must:

- live within community boundaries;
- be age 18 or older;
- provide proof of Creek tribal citizenship; and
- be a registered community member.

Duck Creek anticipates smokeshop opening

- Duck Creek Indian Community anticipates opening its smokeshop in March. Community members had anticipated the smokeshop would open last month, although the opening date is tentatively planned for March, vice-chair Nancy Jo Harry said. The smokeshop is located at U.S. Highway 75 and S. 241st St.

Okemah begins raising funds for food bank

- Okemah Indian Community is soliciting canned food and cash donations throughout the month of March.

Collected food goods will be kept in a food bank and used to assist community members needing groceries. Cash donations will be deposited into the community's food bank account. Program coordinator Nancy Duncan said commodity foods cannot be accepted. Duncan said the community hopes to implement the program beginning in April.

- At 8 a.m., March 7 gospel singing group Same Spirit will be holding an all-day garage sale at the community center. That evening the group will also serve as masters of ceremonies at a 7 p.m. benefit gospel singing.

- An 11 a.m. taco sale will be held at the community center on March 27. At 7 p.m. that evening the community is holding a grocery bingo game. Proceeds from the two fundraisers will be deposited into the food bank account.

- Greenleaf Baptist Church holds monthly youth services at the center on the last Monday of each month. The youth service will be held at 7 p.m., March 29. The community center is located two blocks south of Interstate 40 and state highway 27.

- The Creek Nation adult education program began holding general equivalency diploma (GED) classes at the center on March 1. The course will be held for six weeks.

Onion dinner and bingo to be held at Yardeka

- Yardeka Indian Community has slated a wild onion dinner and bingo game March 6. The dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the bingo game following at 7 p.m. The center is located eight and one-half miles south of Henryetta on Lake Road.

Weleetka holds election of officers

- Weleetka Indian Community held its election of officers in January. Those retaining seats were: Billy Williams, chair; and Ed Scott Jr., vice-chair. Sylvia Crawford is the newly-elected secretary.

Williams said all Council members are invited to the 7 p.m., March 22 regular meeting. The center is located at 609 S. Chickasaw.

OCMA discontinues social services assistance

- Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association has temporarily discontinued social services assistance by action of the board.

Chair Buddy Cox said it has been closed for reorganization and will resume as soon as possible. Cox said all other community meetings and classes will not be affected and will continue as scheduled.

- He reported the community's wild onion dinner was a "great success." Cox thanked "all onion diggers, cooks, servers, and individuals who donated their time, talent, and money." He offered a special thanks to Clarence Walter, recreation committee chair.

Tafvmpece in abundance at Mvskoke churches

Apekv to have wild onion dinner

APEKV — Apekv Ceremonial Ground is holding a wild onion dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 6th. The all-you-can-eat-dinner will cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children 12 and under.

To get to the ceremonial ground from U.S. Highway 75 and Trudgeon Hill in Henryetta, drive east until arriving at "four corners" stop sign. Drive south to the "T" in road and one mile east. The ground is located on the south side of the road.

United Methodist women observe call to prayer

SAPULPA — The Northeast District United Methodist Women will be observing the "call to prayer and self denial" at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church March 6. The observance will be held from 9 a.m. to noon.

The church will be observing "women behind the pulpit" during its 11 a.m. worship service. Anita Phillips, Stroh's Chapel United Methodist Church member, will be the speaker.

A wild onion dinner will be held from noon to 6 p.m., March 13. The dinner will cost \$4.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children.

The church will hold its fourth Sunday communion service and fellowship dinner March 14.

March 20 has been set for beautifying the church grounds, member Maxine Barnett said. Members will be planting flowers and shrubs.

The church's United Methodist Youth's Fellowship unit will be holding a food sale following the March 21 morning worship service. The proceeds will help fund their activities. The UMW will hold their Easter program "seeds of faith" at 5 p.m., March 21.

From the intersection of Taft and Hickory streets in Sapulpa, the church is located four and one-half miles south on Hickory Street. The church is located on the west side of the street.

Honey Creek Methodist observes women in history

HONEY CREEK — A special second Sunday service will be held at Honey Creek United Methodist Church on March 7th.

The United Methodist Church is observing March as women in history month, said member Pearl Thomas. The church's United Methodist Women's unit will take charge of the March 7 services. Those attending are encouraged to wear traditional clothing. The worship service begins at 11 a.m., with dinner following the service. Sunday school is held at 1 p.m.

Fourth Sunday service will be held March 21.

The church will be hosting the Northeast District Senior Methodists' quarterly meeting April 4 — also the church's second Sunday date.

To get to Honey Creek church from Okmulgee, drive four miles west on state highway 56. Drive south three and one-half miles and turn west and follow detour road for approximately one and one-half miles. Turn west and then south at the old Honey Creek store. The church is located on the west side of the road. From Wilson Public Schools, drive north and turn west just before detour sign. Keep driving west until reaching old Honey Creek store and then turn south.

Women to lead Newtown Methodist service

OKMULGEE — Newtown United Methodist Church will observe "women behind the pulpit" during its March 7 worship service. Speakers will be Salena Watashe and Becky Thompson.

The church's communion service and fellowship dinner will be held March 14. The church's United Methodist

Women's unit will also be observing the "world day of prayer" at 2 p.m. UMW member Ruby Chupco will lead the observance.

The church will be observing the "great hour of sharing" March 21. It will collect a special offering for missions during the worship service.

Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. The worship service is held at 11 a.m. Sunday evening service begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday evening service begins 7 p.m. Services are held each Sunday morning and evening and Wednesday evening.

The UMW is sponsoring a church-wide study on Amos at its Sunday and Wednesday evening services throughout the month of March. The Sunday and Wednesday evening studies are held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., UMW president Lillie Cox said.

The church's United Methodist Youth's Fellowship unit has been active in youth rallies and revivals, Cox said.

She reported the church trustees are planning to provide church ramps, railing, and sidewalks for disabled church members and guests.

To get to the church, turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56 in Okmulgee. Drive west to the stop sign and south to the intersection of Okmulgee and Eufaula streets. Follow Eufaula Street three miles until the road curves north. The church is located one mile from the bend, on the east side of the road.

Big Cussetah Methodist to have wild onion dinner

MORRIS — Big Cussetah United Methodist Church is holding an all-you-can-eat wild onion dinner March 13. The dinner will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children ages 12 and under.

Fourth Sunday service will be held March 7. Sunday school is held from 10 to 10:45 a.m. The worship service is held from 11 a.m. to noon. The fellowship dinner will be served at noon. Second Sunday service will be held March 21.

The church is located three miles east of Okmulgee on U.S. Highway 62 and three and one-half miles south on Prairie Bell Road.

Broken Arrow to hold wild onion dinner

BROKEN ARROW — A wild onion dinner will be held at Broken Arrow United Methodist Church on March 13.

The dinner will begin at noon and cost \$5 per plate.

The church has scheduled a revival March 18 and 19. Guest evangelists are: March 18 — Rev. Jerry Byrd, Seminole Hitchitee United Methodist Church; and March 19 — Rev. David Adair, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Northeast District Superintendent. The revival will begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly. The church is located at 20824 W. 141st St.

Little Cussetah Methodist schedules second Sunday

SCHULTER — Fourth Sunday service will be held at Little Cussetah United Methodist Church Feb. 14.

Second Sunday service will be held Feb. 28. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. The worship service begins at 11 a.m. To get to the church, turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and Wilson Road and drive two miles to the first intersection. Turn north and drive three quarters of a mile. The church is located on the west side of the road.

James and Brandon Burgess were recently baptized at the church. The boys, ages 12 and four, are the sons of Jan and Carolyn Burgess. Their paternal grandparents are Esther and the late Monroe Burgess.

Fife Memorial Methodist schedules wild onion dinner

MUSKOGEE — Fife Memorial United Methodist

Church is holding a wild onion dinner at First United Methodist Church in Muskogee.

The dinner will be held from 5 to 8 p.m., March 19. The dinner will cost \$4.50 per plate for adults and \$2.50 per plate for children 12 and under. The First United Methodist Church is located at 110 N. F St.

The church's communion service and fellowship dinner will be held March 7th. Sunday school begins at 10 a.m. and the worship service starts at 11 a.m. Church service is held each Sunday morning. The church is located at 901 E. Okmulgee.

Thlophlocco Methodist to hold wild onion dinner

THLOPHLOCCO — Thlophlocco United Methodist Church is holding a wild onion dinner from 3 to 8 p.m., March 20. The all-you-can-eat dinner will cost \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 and under.

The church will hold its fourth Sunday service March 7th. Sunday school will begin at 10 a.m., with the worship service following at 11 a.m. The fellowship dinner will be served at noon. The church board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. Second Sunday service is March 21. The church's United Methodist Women's unit will meet following the second Sunday fellowship dinner.

The church is located 8 miles south of Okemah on state highway 27 and 8 miles west of Wetumka on state highway 27.

Mutteloke United Methodist schedules revival

BRISTOW — Mutteloke United Methodist Church is holding a revival March 24 through 26.

Guest evangelists are: March 24 — Rev. Jerry Byrd, Seminole Hitchitee United Methodist Church; March 25 — Rev. Ed Hinman, Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church; and March 26 — Rev. Sam Horse, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference West District. The revival will begin at 7 p.m. nightly. The church is located at Tejon and Poplar Streets.

Tulsa Methodist slates workshop, wild onion dinner

TULSA — Tulsa United Indian Methodist Church is offering an evangelism workshop beginning at 9 a.m., March 27. The workshop will focus on evangelism in the biblical perspective, Pastor Taylor Harjo said. Christians at all levels may attend the workshop, he said.

March 20 has been scheduled for the church's wild onion dinner. The dinner will begin at noon. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$2.50 for children ages 12 and under. March 7 is the church's communion service and fellowship dinner date. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. The worship service begins at 11 a.m. Church service is held each Sunday. The church is located at 1901 N. College.

Concharty Methodist slates wild onion dinner

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church is holding an April 3 wild onion dinner.

The dinner will be held from noon to 6 p.m. The dinner will cost \$5 per plate for adults and \$2.50 per plate for children 12 and under..

The church is located four miles north of state highway 16 on Bixby Road and one mile east.

Community Baptist Church slates revival

SAPULPA — Community Baptist Church has scheduled its harvest time revival for April 12 through 16. Services begin nightly at 7:30 p.m. Newman Pete Kelly is the evangelist, John Fixico is music director, and Elizabeth Baker is the pianist. Rev. Truitt Johns is the pastor. The church is located seven miles west of Sapulpa on state highway 33.

Tribal births and birthdays

Jimmy Dan Asbury

HOLDENVILLE — Jimmy Dan Asbury celebrated his first birthday Jan. 30, with a party given by his parents, Angie Long and Donnie Asbury of Holdenville.

The Sesame Street theme party featured a Big Bird cake, ice cream, other refreshments, and party favors.

Attending the party were Asbury's grandparents, Harold and Minnie Long of Holdenville and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Asbury of Wetumka. Also attending were: Danetta Marshall of Holdenville; Cindy Phelan of Tishamingo; Nellie Asbury of Weleetka; Gary Asbury; Darlene Morgan; Deborah McGirt; and Irene McQueen; all of Wetumka. Sending gifts were: Gene Long of Tishamingo; Mellissa Long and family; and Bobby Long and family; all of Holdenville.

Kristian Morgan Rae Samuel

TULSA — Kristian Morgan Rae Samuel was born Feb. 6, at a Tulsa hospital. She weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and measured 19 inches at birth. She was born to Randall Samuel and Lorraine Daniel, both of Sapulpa. Paternal grandparents are Ray and Betty Samuel of Sapulpa. Maternal grandparents are Norman Daniel and Janie McCosar of Sapulpa. Maternal great-grandparents are Norma Jean Bible of Preston and Johnny Daniel of Lawrence, Kan., and Edna and James Pickering of Sapulpa. Great-great-grandparents are Mable Hill Sampson of Preston, Lewis Watashe of Kellyville, Madeline Bruner of Tulsa, and the late Lawrence and Nora Samuel of Smithville.

Megan Elizabeth Franks

HOLDENVILLE — Megan Elizabeth Franks was born October 30, 1992 to Christopher and Julie Franks of Holdenville. Maternal grandparents are Dennis and Jane Carroll. Paternal grandparents are Susanna and L.C. Franks. Paternal great-grandparents are Albert and Diane Lowe.



Asbury



Samuel



Franks

Creek student to play soccer in Europe

INOLA — Fifteen-year-old Creek student Stacy Blalock has been selected recently as a participant in International Soccer USA's European Soccer Tour 1993.

International Soccer USA coach Clive Griffiths stated Blalock is the first Native American to qualify for one of his international soccer teams, Blalock said. Because it is an amateur youth team, the participants receive no funding for expenses, she said. Blalock will be responsible for paying her expenses; the cost is \$3,000 per player, excluding soccer shoes, equipment, and spending money.

Blalock is a freshman at Inola High School. She has lettered in basketball, softball, and track. She is currently a center striker on team Aurora, a classic team affiliated with the Broken Arrow Soccer Association.

She is the daughter of Sherman and Jeannie Blalock, Inola. She is the paternal granddaughter of Mose

Tiger and Revennie Harjo, Sapulpa. Her paternal great-grandmother is the late Annie Tiger, Henryetta.

The Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa is holding a benefit pow-wow for Blalock beginning at 2 p.m., March 27. The pow-wow will be held at Porter Elementary School, 1740 W. 41st St. in Tulsa.

Individuals may donate funds to: Stacy Blalock Soccer Fund, P.O. Box 398, Inola, OK 74036 or deposits can be made directly to the Bank of Inola.



Blalock

Creek trooper featured in program

OKLAHOMA CITY — Desmond Barnett was interviewed recently by an Oklahoma City television station for a feature on Indians in the Oklahoma Highway Patrol.

Barnett is a Eufaula native who serves Kingfisher County. He has been a state trooper since 1985. Barnett is the son of Darrell and Jennie Barnett of Eufaula.

Barnett is a second generation law enforcement agent, as his father is a former Eufaula police officer.

Barnett has worked with the Kingfisher Johnson O'Malley parent committee and speaks regularly to youth groups urging them to stay clean, sober, and in school.

He and his wife, Lynn, have one daughter, Caitlyn.



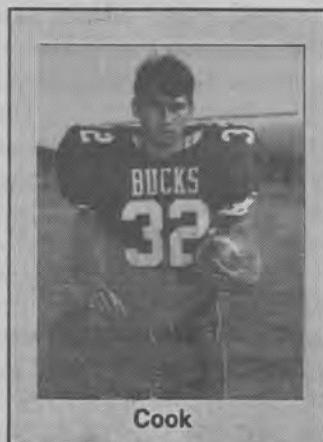
Barnett

Creek student excels for Hominy

HOMINY — Samuel Ruben Cook, Creek-Pawnee, is an 11th grade student at Hominy High School. He played cornerback and slotback for the Hominy Bucks.

Cook also placed in the top 10 in the 200 and 400 meter sprints at the Junior Olympics in Spokane, Wash. while in the 8th grade.

Samuel is the son of Pamela Cook and the grandson of Lolita and Virgil Cook of Yale. He is the great-grandson of the late Ruben Cook.



Cook

Creek psychologist works in Colorado

DENVER — Jeff King received his doctorate in clinical psychology from Pennsylvania State University. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and his master's degree also from Pennsylvania State University.

King has also completed a one-year internship through the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver.

He is now employed by the National Center for American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Research Center, which is a part of the psychiatry department at the University of Colorado.

He also works part-time at Denver Indian Health and Family Services as a mental health counselor.

He is the son of the late James F. King III and Anna Jacobs King. He is the nephew of Creek Council representative Irene Cleghorn. King is married to Lisa Jensen King and has three children, Lauren, Michael and Timmy. They reside in Denver.



King

Okmulgee Middle School honor roll

OKMULGEE — The following Creek students were named to the Okmulgee Middle School honor roll for the first semester.

Sixth grade: Rhiannon Bell; Bobbie Fisher; Jenna Hill; Gresha Jackson; Tessie Jimboy; Jessica Kelley; Stephanie Rocho; and Laurie Smith.

Seventh grade: Larissa Foley; Dodi Hames; Danny Hodge; Jeremy Lunsford; Wynona Powell; Jennifer Taryole; and Valerie Taryole.

Eighth grade: Ashleigh Compton; Becky Dutton; Sharkeya Freeman; Natasha Fultz; Amy Jackson; Kristy McClure; Kyle SpottedHorse; Vanessa Swake; Tawny Taylor; Amber Toney; and Micah Wolfe.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Obituaries

MARY TAYLOR

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Mary Taylor, 43, of Henryetta were held at Salem Baptist Church Jan. 30 with Revs. Allison Phillips and Christopher Harjo officiating.

Taylor was born Dec. 15, 1949 in Okmulgee to Thompson and Lizzie Factor Roberts. She was married Mitchell Taylor in December 1971 in Okmulgee.

She was a bookkeeper and a member of the Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church.

Survivors include: her husband, Mitchell of the home; a daughter, Meredith; a son, Marlon Taylor, both of the home; three brothers, Gene Roberts of Oklahoma City, Thomas Roberts of Belle Garden, Calif., and Jerry Roberts of Morris; one sister, Brenda Wolfe of Oklahoma City.

MATTIE LONG

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Mattie Long, 67, of Preston were held Jan. 23 at Salt Creek United Methodist Church, Holdenville, and Newtown Methodist Church, Okmulgee. Rev. David Long Jr. officiated the service.

Long was born Nov. 23, 1925 to Amos and Minnie Hunter Fixico in Holdenville. She was married to Thomas Long in 1949 at Salt Creek. She had made her home in various parts of Oklahoma and lived in Preston for the past three years.

Long was raised in Holdenville and attended Eufaula Boarding School and Haskell Indian school.

She was a member of Honey Creek United Methodist Church west of Okmulgee. She was a Creek Nation Head Start teacher at Sapulpa.

She is survived by: her husband, Thomas Long of the home; six daughters, and three sons-in-law, Vickie and Russell Watashe, Minnie and Rick Wolfe, Karen Long, and Sidney Long all of Okmulgee, Thomasine Long of Mounds, Lou Ann and Kenneth Messer of Muskogee; two sons, Bob Long of Preston, and Guy Long of Tulsa; 12 grandchildren; one brother, Alex Fixico of Bethany; nieces; nephews; and other relatives.

KATHRYN FISH

DUSTIN — Funeral services for Kathryn Fish, 59, of Wetumka were held Feb. 12 at Sand Creek Baptist Church with Revs. George Jesse and Mose Scott officiating.

Fish was born Jan. 16, 1934 to John and Edna Scott Fish in Wetumka. She attended Lone Star and Seneca Indian Schools. She was employed as a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representative for 17 years. She was a member of Sand Creek Baptist Church.

Pallbearers were: Sam Marshall; Daniel Coachman; Dean Tiger; James Locust; George Barnett; and Chester Whitetree.

She was preceded in death by: her parents, John and Edna Fish; one brother; and two sisters.

Survivors include: brothers, Alex Fish of Cromwell, J.B. Fish of Okeechobee, Fla., and Maxie Fish of Wetumka; two sisters, Virginia Whitetree and Diana Moppin, both of Wetumka; an uncle, John Burgess, of Welty; a foster son, Sampson of Wetumka; several nieces, nephews; relatives; and friends.

PATTY ROBERTS FACTOR

NUYAKA — Funeral services for Patty Sue Roberts Factor, 50, of Okemah were held Jan. 28 at Nuyaka Baptist Church with the Revs. Wilson Hicks and Willis Knight officiating.

She was born July 17, 1942 in Okfuskee County to Cainey and Stella Pierce Roberts.

Factor was a social worker for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for 10 years. She was a member of the Nuyaka Baptist Church.

Preceding her in death were: her father, Cainey Roberts; and sister, Mary Etta Leitka.

Survivors include: two daughters, Cynda LouAnn Factor and Gwendolyn Sue Factor; her mother, Stella Roberts; three brothers, Carney Roberts, Roy Roberts, and Cainey Roberts Jr.; two sisters, Judy Roberts and Patsy Pigeon; one grandson; one granddaughter, all of Okemah; relatives; and a host of friends.

NAOMI ROXIE KILLINGSWORTH

CHECOTAH — Funeral services for Naomi Roxie Riley Killingsworth, age 80 of Checotah were held Feb. 16 at Checotah First Baptist Church. Prayer service was held Feb. 15 at Merritt Funeral Chapel.

Killingsworth was born at Tiger Mountain. She lived in the Checotah area all her life. She married Bryan Killingsworth in 1934 at Pierce. He preceded her death in 1980.

She was a member of the Checotah First Baptist Church, the Senior High Note Choir, served on the Checotah Planning Committee, and the Ruth Sunday school class. She was also preceded in death by: her parents Bunnie and Lillie Tiger Riley; two sons; five brothers; and one sister. She is survived by: five sons, Bill of Sapulpa, Johanie L. and wife, Lynda of Lawton, Andy and wife, Marti of Checotah, Thomas J. and wife, Debbie of Muskogee, Bunnie and wife, Paula of Checotah; two daughters, Juanita and husband, Hugh Zimmerman of Stilwell, Lillie Jane and Ed Helton of Checotah; 16 grandchildren; and 17 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Chubby Anderson; Jerry Longcrier; Donald Dowdy; Bob Hogan; Carl Shatswell; and Bunnie Killingsworth. Honorary pallbearers were: Lee Wright; Archie Sutton; Chuck Hill; Jerry Faught; Cecil VanBuren; Mack Keathley; and Connie Dodge.

JERRY PASCHAL

WHITEVILLE, N.C. — Funeral services for Jerry Paschal, 61, of Whiteville were held Feb. 12 at the Whiteville United Methodist Church with Dr. Homer Morris officiating. Paschal died of a heart attack Feb. 10 at his home.

A superintendent of the Whiteville Public School System, Paschal was named superintendent of the year by the North Carolina School Boards Association.

He was a member of the Lions Club, the Mental Health Association, the National Education Association, and former president of the North Carolina Educators' Association. Paschal was also a member of Tuskegee Baptist Church.

He is survived by: his wife, Patricia; a daughter, Joan Mabry of Shelby, N.C.; a son, Art Paschal of Whiteville; Edna Paschal of Glendon, N.C.; and five grandchildren. Interment was in the Whiteville Memorial Cemetery.

VICTOR F. CHILDERS

TULSA — Funeral services for Victor F. Childers, 62, of Tulsa were held Dec. 26 at Stanleys Memorial Chapel.

Childers was a founding member of the Mended Hearts Club, and the founder of Promoting Indian Production and Education (PIPE) summer program for Indian youth. He also was the founder and host of the National Indian Golf Tournament. Additionally, Childers was a member of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center, a member of the Tulsa Indian Chamber of Commerce, past member of a mayoral commission on Indian Affairs, founder of Indian Week in Tulsa, founder of the Tulsa Jr. Pow Wow, founder of the Oklahoma Tribal Assistance Program, and a board member of the Tulsa Urban Development Authority.

He was employed at Children's Medical Center as a radiology technologist for 37 years. Childers was past president of both the Tulsa Radiological Society and the Oklahoma Radiological Society. He was also employed by the Home X-Ray Service.

Childers was a member of the Church of Madeline and is listed in "Who's Who Personalities of the South." He was a Korean War veteran with the 45th Infantry Division U.S. Army, Bank Charlie Company. His Indian doll "Charlie" was adopted as the 45th Division mascot, resulting in the division being known as "Charlie Company". The doll currently resides in the 45th Division Museum in Oklahoma City.

Childers was a graduate of Chilocco Indian School and Spartan School of Electronics. He attended the University of Tulsa and Duke University.

He is survived by: his wife, Patsy Jo Childers; a son, Victor F. Childers II, both of the home; daughters, Elda Watts of Tulsa, Victoria Lynn Scott of Houston, Texas; grandchildren, Walter Watts, Jordan and Caithn Scott; sisters, Barbara Jean Gillespie and Joyce Bear; a brother, Kenneth L. Childers; a host of nieces; nephews; and other relatives.

BENJAMIN HARRISON SEVIER SR

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Benjamin Harrison Sevier Sr., 80, were held Jan. 21 at the Merritt Cottage Chapel with Rev. Chris Harjo officiating. Sevier was born June 16, 1912, in Hitchita, to Louis and Amanda Thompson Sevier. He married Nora Clark in 1937 in Okmulgee. Sevier worked as a laborer and was a U.S. Army Veteran of World War II. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Little Coweta Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; his wife, Nora; two sisters, Annie and Blanche; and one brother, Willie.

Survivors include: three daughters, Shirley Sevier of Guthrie, Carolyn Powell of Okmulgee, and Phyllis Johnson of Broken Arrow; two sons, Ben H. Sevier and Tom Sevier, both of Tulsa; three brothers, Tom Sevier of Maude, Louis Sevier of Hitchita, and Charles Sevier of Okmulgee; one sister, Lena Sevier of Hitchita; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and a host of nieces; nephews and friends.

Tribal service directory addendum

Editor's note: The following are corrections to the tribal services directory that appeared in the February edition of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

- **social services department** — Funding is no longer available for the emergency homeless program and this program has been discontinued.

- **adult education** — The adult education office is located in Lackey Hall on the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee Campus. Phone (918) 758-0849.

- **Job Training Partnership Act** — Eligibility requirements should have read: applicants must be able to document degree of Indian blood.

- **attorney general's office** — The attorney general's office is a part of the executive branch. Additional information regarding this office will appear in the April edition of *The MNN*.

- **Head Start** — The eligibility guidelines do not include children of families whose income exceeds federal guidelines.

The following are additional services offered by the respective programs and were not included in the February edition.

Office of public gaming

The Office of public gaming is responsible

to the tribe and is charged with the responsibility to protect the integrity of the tribe and its financial interests, and for the orderly development, and administration-regulation of gaming activities on Muscogee (Creek) Nation lands.

The policy of this office requires that tribal bingo facilities be operated in a manner suitable to protect the public health, safety, morals, good order, and general welfare of the clients.

The office has oversight and compliance responsibilities for bingo halls in Bristow, Checotah, Eufaula, Holdenville, Muskogee, Okmulgee, and Tulsa.

Children and family services administration:

- the special needs adoption program (SNAP), initiates court action regarding Creek children who are in need of adoption and provides services relevant to permanent placement of those children;

- counseling services. A variety of counseling modalities with children and families is available. The counselor assists in cases where children are identified in need of psychological evaluation and treatment, beyond the control and supervision of their parents or guardians, delinquent,

and/or need assistance with discontinuing substance abuse dependence. The counselor may serve as a juvenile probation and parole officer;

- the child abuse prevention and education program (CAPE) is a large-scale child abuse prevention and community action program. It offers informative sessions and assists in the development of any continuing community programs which lessen the possibility of child abuse and neglect;

- Title IV-B childrens services program. Provides for the care of children in the custody of the Creek Nation, including reimbursement for foster care expenses, direct assistance to children and families on the caseload, and assistance to families regarding prevention or ameliorative services. This program supports the office of the tribe's designated assistant attorney general for children and family services.

The children and family services administration has relocated to the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee campus. Its new location is 1801 E. 4th St. Offices are on the first floor of Lackey Hall. The phone numbers remain (918) 756-2112 and 1 (800) 521-5432.

In brief

Manley family reunion

EUFALIA — Descendants of Tarpey Manley and Mose Manley have scheduled a family reunion March 27 at Artussee Baptist Church beginning at 11 a.m. All relatives of the Manley family, originally from Eufaula, are invited to attend the reunion. Please bring a covered dish. For more information, contact Pauline Manley Bean at (918) 689-7632 or HC 63 Box 245, Eufaula, OK 74432.

Festival umpires sought

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo Committee is seeking Indian umpires the annual men and women's fast pitch softball tournaments. The festival tournaments will run June 18 through 20. For more information, contact Dean Williams at (918) 756-8700, ext. 397.

Holdenville

continued from page 1
whole tribe. Someone can now look at other types of businesses or spin-off industries from this hall. Someone can now take a look at the hall's financial plan or business plan and use that information to start a successful enterprise. If it turns a profit, everybody benefits."

Creek communities provide fellowship, services and assistance

continued from page 4

Holdenville opens thriftshop

• Holdenville Indian Community's social committee opened a thriftshop in early February.

The thrift store will be open on the first Tuesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and third Tuesdays of each month from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• Mary Ann Billy was temporarily hired as the community's secretary. Office hours are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. The center is located at 416 E. Poplar.

Dustin citizen donates land to community

• Dustin citizen Albert Brown has donated two city lots to Dustin Indian Community.

Robin Fife, secretary, said the community submitted its community development block grant to the Council in February.

Its grant proposal will be used to erect a community center. Fife said the community intends to construct the center through volunteer efforts. She said eight volunteers have already committed to help.

Tulsa offering emergency assistance

- Tulsa Creek Indian Community has begun offering emergency assistance to its members.

Newly-hired secretary Deborah Alexander will be accepting applications during regular

- rent, with provision of eviction notice;
- food, with provision of income statement; and

- work clothing or tools, with verification of employment.

Community members are eligible only if they have not received emergency hardship assistance from the tribe or community during fiscal year 1993, chair Norma Posey said.

Checotah announces scholarship deadline date

- Checotah Indian Community will be awarding a scholarship to a Checotah High School graduating senior.

Applications are available at the high school and community center. May 1 is the deadline date for accepting applications.

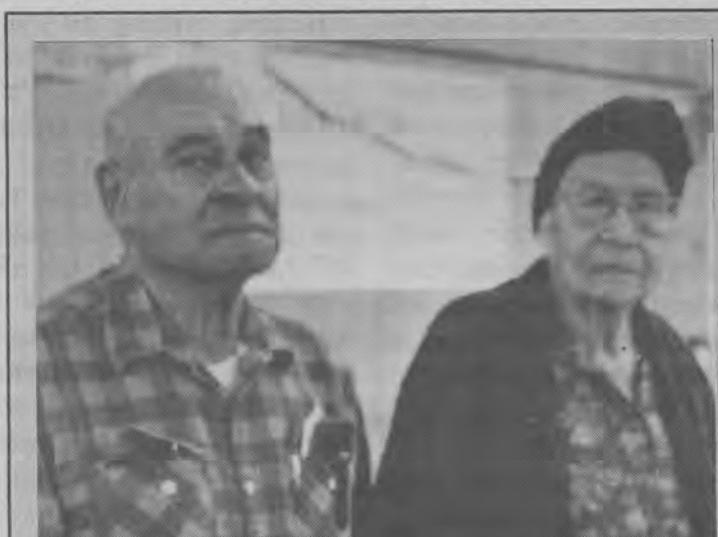
- The community held a wild onion dinner March 5.

- Beading classes began March 3, reporter Cheryl Bear said. For more information, call the center at 473-5290. The center is located at 998 Maple.

- Community members Kendra Round and Onzell Keahbone coordinated a youth skating party held in late February; 37 youth participated.

- The first of monthly elders' luncheons was held in February. Twelve elders were in attendance. Mary Turnbull, center coordinator, hosted the event, Bearsaid. Samaria Jones was the luncheon door prize winner.

- Millie Colbert began instructing Muskogee language classes in mid-February. Colbert will be instructing advanced classes, although a date has not been set.



George Bruner and Nancy Beaver were selected Holdenville Indian Community King and Queen at its Valentine's dinner.

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The Muscogee Nation News

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April 1993, 12 Pages

Principal chief says tribe making impact on state, local economy

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Creating a major economic impact in eastern Oklahoma is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

With an annual budget over \$70 million, the Creek Nation is the leading economic booster in Okmulgee through its various programs designed to help the lives of its 35,000 Creek citizens and the lives of non-Indians in the area.

"Our tribal budget is \$70 million, which economists would estimate has a \$280 million impact on the regional economy," said principal chief Bill Fife.

The Creek Nation also has a direct bearing on the lives of non-Creeks through its various programs in health, education, social welfare, law enforcement, and in the improvements in rural lifestyle.

One major effect the Creek Nation has had in the total community is the operation of the Creek Nation Community Hospital.

The Creek Nation leases and operates the hospital to serve the city of Okemah and Okfuskee County, as well as Creek Nation citizens. It is one of the remaining few rural hospitals in Oklahoma.

Employment of Creeks and non-Creeks at the hospital create an economic boost to the total community.

Another way the Creek Nation is making an impact in the total community is the road building project, which has helped the counties within the Creek Nation in their road building and maintenance programs.

"We hope to have \$3 million for road projects for the area, which will benefit Creek citizens and everyone who uses the rural roads," said the tribe's executive director Jerry Wilson. "We are able to help lift the financial burdens of the county commissioners

through this program."

Wilson said plans are in the process to form rural fire protection programs throughout the Creek Nation.

"With this program we will be able to provide fire protection which will lower the insurance costs of all homes in those areas," Wilson said. "This is just another example of how the Creek Nation is benefitting all people."

The National Council of the Creek Nation recently approved a \$25,000 grant to the community of Yeager to help obtain matching federal funds for a fire station and community center. This marked the first time the tribe has offered assistance to a rural community with a large Creek population.

Wilson also cited the federal funds public schools receive because of Indian children attending those schools.

Through the federal impact aid and Johnson-O'Malley program, public schools are able to purchase equipment and other needs that will help Indian and non-Indian students," Wilson said. "Schools would not get those needed supplies and equipment if it were not for Indian students."

Through the social programs offered for Creek citizens, the budget load of state agencies is lessened, Wilson said.

Law enforcement is another example of how the Creek Nation helps its own people and all people living within the nation.

"Because we have a well trained police force, we are able to help other law enforcement agencies and relieve some of the burdens they face in manpower," Wilson said.

Besides social programs, the Creek Nation provides the No. 1 tourism attraction in eastern Oklahoma.

"The No. 1 attraction in Tulsa and Okmulgee is the Creek Nation Bingo,"



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

HONEY CREEK — Honey Creek, Big Cussetah, and Salt Creek United Methodist church mothers Pauline Pakoska Billy, Susie Monday, and Nancy Beaver participate in the Northeast District Seniors' quarterly meeting hosted by Honey Creek in early April.

Second chief Crow serving tribe, Indians on presidential health care reform task force

by Jim Meyers

reprinted from Tulsa World

WASHINGTON D.C. — It was something of a historic moment and Shelly Crow certainly made the most of it.

Crow, second chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and a nurse on the teaching staff of the University of Tulsa, was on Memorial Bridge last Jan. 17 along with thousands of other Americans participating in then President-elect Clinton's bell-ringing ceremony.

She met soon-to-be first lady Hillary Clinton.

"I gave her my card and told her I was a nurse," the 45-year-old Crow recalls.

"I said I was interested in women's health issues. Women, infants, and children are my specialty."

She said that during their brief conversation Mrs. Clinton told Crow to write her, and Crow did, sending along a

resume that outlines her extensive background in Indian health issues.

A few weeks later, she received a phone call and today Crow is one of 50 special consultants working with Clinton's task force charged with hammering out a new national health plan.

"I was kind of shocked," she said, "I wasn't endorsed by anyone."

In fact, Crow said no one from Oklahoma was even asked to the task force.

"I just think it was meant to be," she said.

Crow said that since her appointment everyone has been extremely supportive, including Oklahoma Gov. David Walters, Muscogee Principal Chief Bill Fife, TU officials, her husband, and two children.

With the task force's 100-day deadline set by the president, Crow said she and

Tribal official responds to negative editorial

by Noah Long

Jerry Wilson, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Executive Director, said a recent editorial blasting a tribal proposal for car tags and an editorial cartoon stereotyping the facial features of an Indian are obvious signs of prejudice and racism against American Indians.

The Tulsa World's editorial said the car tag proposal would be "...at the expense of Oklahoma school children. Money plunked down for a cheap Indian tag is money denied an already thin state education budget."

The editorial also stated that Creek children attend "...state-supported schools, they benefit from state-supported medical care and they drive on tax-supported roads, among many other things."

Wilson said the statements were "ignorant."

"Attempting to place blame on Indian tribes for the quality of education in Oklahoma is ignorant," Wilson said. "Contending that our right to exercise sovereignty comes at the expense of school children is, at best, irresponsible."

Wilson said the Oklahoma Tax Commission has no authority to make decisions regarding Indian businesses.

"The tax commission should concentrate its efforts on duties assigned to it by the state legislature," Wilson said. "The U.S. Congress is the only entity that can regulate Indian commerce."

Wilson said the Tulsa World is also wrong to blame Indian tribes for the thin education budget.

"It has been the oil companies that have raped Oklahoma education," Wilson said. "Very few have ever attempted to hold the oil moguls accountable for their role in the quality of Oklahoma education."

Wilson noted that millions of dollars in federal funds are returned to Oklahoma schools because of Indians attending state-supported schools through the Johnson O'Malley and Title V programs.

Wilson said Okemah-area residents are benefitting because the Creek Nation Community Hospital is managed and operated by the tribe.

The Tulsa World also stated, "It's too bad the court has to waste its time on such nonsense."

Wilson said federal courts are the only place for Indian tribes to receive equal protection within the law.

"The American judicial system is exactly where we need to take Indian issues," Wilson said. "As long as Oklahoma's Indian policy continues to be developed from ignorance, seeking redress in federal court will remain an option this tribe will utilize."

"If the Oklahoma Tax Commission respected the law regarding tribal enterprise, there wouldn't have been any court cases."

Wilson noted that Oklahoma history scholars have documented facts regarding fraud and swindles

please see DEFENDS..., page 8

Letters to the editor

Oklmulgee Indian Club says *mvto*
Editor:

We wish to express our appreciation to Creek Nation Communities for the support the Okmulgee High School Indian Club has received in their fundraising efforts to go to Washington, D.C. *Mvto* to the Creek National Council, Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo, Creek Nation tulsa Bingo, Okmulgee Indian Community, and Sonic Drive-In. We appreciate the donation from Councilman Harvey Gilroy also. Thank you for buying our breakfast burritos, Indian tacos, buying our garage sale items, and letting us wash your cars.

Through this trip, American history came alive to the students as they saw their legislators in action on Capitol Hill. At the Smithsonian Institute, we saw the past and present of the American Indian. It is hoped that this trip will result in future Indian lawyers, senators, and representatives. Again, we say, thank you.

Sponsors, Estherlene Gee and Tim Bigpond
Okmulgee High School Indian Club

California reader seeks family information

Editor:

I'm trying to get information on Mahala Perryman and Sam Davis (her first husband). I know she was born in 1856 and died in 1901 from information from the Creek rolls. She was my great-grandmother.

You must get hundreds of requests on family history and I surely do appreciate your help. Thank you.
Florence Haner, Downey, Calif.

Candidate thanks supporters

Editor:

I would like to thank everyone who helped campaign on my behalf and who voted for me during our special election for the vacant Council representative seat in the Tulsa District.

Your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

Also, I would like to apologize to Arbeka Baptist Church. I am not a member of Arbeka Baptist Church as was reported in the February issue of The MNN.

Thank you.

Carol Asbury Morris, Tulsa

First Lady appreciates second chief

Chief Fife and Mr. Cloud:

I am writing to tell you how grateful we are to the Muscogee Nation for the important work that Shelly Crow is doing as a member of the working group on the President's Health Care Task Force. Her contribution in helping us insure the health care needs of Native Americans will be properly considered, as we develop this important initiative, is greatly appreciated. I know your people are proud of her wonderful contribution to this effort. The nation is proud of her.

With best wishes to all of you.

Hillary Clinton, Washington D.C.

Mexican official identifies Muscogees

Principal Chief Bill Fife:

I have the pleasure to inform you that I have been appointed minister for cultural affairs of the embassy of Mexico.

The new headquarters of the cultural section are now located at: Mexican Cultural Institute, 2929 16th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009, phone: (202) 728-1628; fax, (202) 462-7241.

I am pleased to inform you that we have identified an expert on the Muscogee in Mexico, her name is: Paulina Del Moral, Av. Presidente Carranza 894 Pte., 2700 Torre'on, Coahuila, Mexico, phone: 011 (52) 17 16-1829.

According to the research of Del Moral, in the summer of 1850 three tribes fled from the United States, to a town in the border state of Coahuila. The three tribes that sought refuge in Mexico were the Seminoles, led by Wildcat, the Kikapu (Kickapoos), led by Papikua, and the Muscogees, led by John Horse.

To this day, descendants of these three groups still live in Mexico.

Records show that the three tribes were originally assigned an area called El Remolino on the banks of the San Antonio and San Rodrigo rivers. But instead of settling there, they chose the nearby area called La Navaja.

The land grant of El Nacimiento given to the three tribes in 1852 was eventually expanded and was decreed in 1940 as *ejido* lands by President Lazaro Cardenas.

At present there are approximately 60 Muscogee families in El Nacimiento. About five miles away, some 60 Kikapu families live in Ranchera. It is difficult to keep an accurate count because both groups are still migratory.

Today these two groups are unique in that the government of Mexico recognizes their autonomy within Mexico. They have their own civil authorities and have total rights over their land and water.

I would suggest you approach directly Del Moral for future reference.

I hope this information is useful.

Our current ambassador, his excellency Jorge Montano, is very interested in developing relationships with minority groups. If tribal officials are ever in Washington, D.C., we would be very pleased to receive them at the Mexican Cultural Institute and explore the possibility of developing joint cultural and educational ventures. Until then, receive my cordial regards.

Manuel Casio, Washington D.C.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News, a member of the Native American Journalists Association, is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation administration. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*. Editorials and letters must be signed by the writer and include a traceable address. Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of each month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed free to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. For all others, subscriptions are \$12 annually. Change of address corrections are requested. Additional copies are available for 25 cents. *The Muscogee Nation News* is mailed bulk rate from Okmulgee, Okla.

Awarded for general excellence for tribal monthlies
by the Native American Journalists Association

Plans for annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo underway

OKMULGEE — Plans are progressing for the 19th Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo, June 18 through 20 in Okmulgee.

Several programs and events are scheduled in conjunction with the festival, which has attracted 20,000 people for the three-day affair.

The Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation pageant will kickoff the festival activities on June 5, said Rita Williams, pageant coordinator. The pageant's application deadline has been extended to May 1.

Williams said the pageant will start at 7 p.m. in the Independent Agencies (mound) Auditorium, with a reception following the event.

"This year the pageant committee is doing something different for the contestants," Williams said. "They will be oriented on Creek government and culture."

She said the workshop will be conducted by National Council members and traditional spokespersons.

With most events scheduled for June 18 and 19, the golf and tennis tournaments will continue on June 20.

One of the most popular events is the Creek Olympics for youth. The olympics will be held June 18 at

Oklmulgee's Harmon Stadium. Henry Harjo is the coordinator of the event.

Two events that were held for the first time last year will be continued, Williams said.

The gospel singing will be June 19 with the Berryhill's Quartet as the coordinator for the event.

Last year's first pow-wow will be held again this year on June 18 and 19 at Covelle Hall on the campus of Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee. Okema Randall is the coordinator for the pow-wow.

The senior citizens activities will be coordinated with the Euchee Mission Reunion, starting at 10 a.m. June 19 in the executive office building.

The elders domino tournament will also start at 10 a.m. June 19, in the Bureau of Indian Affairs conference room. Those wanting to enter should contact Pearl Thomas at 756-8700, ext. 408.

Senior citizens who have crafts are invited to set up their booth on June 19 in the executive office building. There is no charge for those 55 years or older for this event. Tables will be furnished.

A bingo game is planned following the Euchee Mission Reunion. The games will be free to seniors

Bruner wins special election for Tulsa District representative

OKMULGEE — Bim Stephen Bruner outpolled Donna F. Rhodes in a special election for Tulsa District Seat D for the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

The 31-member National Council is the tribe's legislative body.

Bruner polled 314 votes, while Rhodes received 162 votes in the runoff election. Seat D covers the Tulsa and Glenpool area of the Creek Nation. He is one of six Tulsa District representatives.

The 43-year-old manager of store operations for the Native American Trading Co. in Tulsa, will take office April 24 at the monthly meeting of the National Council.

Bruner assumes the seat vacated by Jerry Wilson who was appointed executive director of the tribe.

"It was a great election," Bruner said after his victory. "The election board told me it was one of the better turnouts in the history of voting in this area and that shows if the people turnout and vote — just what they can do."

Bruner said his campaign was based on getting information to the people.

"I pushed that I would get information out as quick as I could," Bruner said. "There is a lot of frustration out there among the people who don't know what's going on and what's available to them."

Bruner said he plans to publish a newsletter for his district as one way of informing the people of Creek Nation services.

The runoff election was necessary after the Feb. 20 election failed to give any of the four candidates a majority.

In that election, Bruner polled 225, Rhodes polled 126, while two other candidates, Edwin Moore, had 62 and Carol Asbury Morris, 40.

In a breakdown of the election results, Bruner outpolled Rhodes, a former National Council representative, 95 to 40 in Tulsa, 65 to 40 in Glenpool, and 154 to 87 in absentee ballots.

who will be playing for grocery and gift items.

The Euchee Mission Reunion will begin taking registrations June 18 in the executive office building lobby. The dinner will be held June 19. For more information, contact Phillip Coon reunion coordinator.

Other activities and coordinators of the events include the following:

- softball tournaments, June 18, 19, and 20, omniplex, Dean Williams and Charley Lasarge;
 - rodeo, June 18, 19, omniplex, Sonny O'Hearn;
 - volleyball, June 19, omniplex, Annie and Simmer Hicks;
 - archery tournament and demonstration, primitive and compound bow, Michael B. Berryhill;
 - tennis, June 18, 19, and 20 Bruce and Gretchen Harjo;
 - golf, June 18, 19, and 20, Fountainhead Resort Golf Course, Jim Burgess;
 - bowling, June 18, 19, Beeline Bowl, Sarah Ward; and
 - five-kilometer run, June 19, Roger Barnett.
- Concessions, arts, and crafts will be available.

For more information, call Thomas.

Veteran newsman joins tribal communications staff

OKMULGEE — Veteran newsman Noah Long has joined the Muscogee (Creek) Nation News as staff writer, announced Jim Wolfe, communications services manager.

Long, who attended the University of Central Oklahoma, has been in the newspaper business for 21 years, serving newspapers in Holdenville, Ada, Wewoka, Seminole, Edmond, Mustang, Oklahoma City's Daily Oklahoman. Most recently he was the sports editor of the Okmulgee Daily Times.

Long covered the Creek Nation while reporting for the Okmulgee newspaper and is familiar with the operations and services of the tribe.

A fullblood Creek, Long is the son of the late Rev. Newman and Hettie Long. He is from Salt Creek community near Holdenville.

He is active in the United Methodist Church, having served as a delegate to the general conference in 1992. He is a member of Angie Smith Memorial Church in Oklahoma City where he serves as the lay leader.

"I'm very happy to be with the Muscogee Nation and I look forward to serving the information needs of the tribe and of the people," he said of his new assignment.

Head Start accepting applications for fall term

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start centers will be taking applications for enrollment for 3 and 4 year olds for the fall term. To enroll, applicants should have:

- a birth certificate;
- certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB);
- verification of income; and
- immunization records.

For more information, call (918) 756-8700, ext. 320 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The Creek Nation has Head Start centers in Eufaula, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, and Yeager.

Indian chamber of commerce to host business rendezvous

TULSA — The American Indian Chamber of Commerce is looking for Indian businesses who want to grow and make money. The Indian chamber, in its second full year, has 80 businesses and is heading membership drive.

Chamber members are from throughout the area and represent a large variety of businesses — environmental consulting firms, advertising-marketing agencies, construction, architecture, answering service, music stores, bingo halls, and a tribe.

Members receive benefits such as a directory which is mailed to corporate entities and buyers, meetings which offer various speakers, and a group which works on issues which affect Indian businesses.

The chamber is now preparing for its second Indian business trade show, "Business Rendezvous '93," April 16 at Tulsa Technology Center.

Dannette Russell, chamber officer, said the trade show is unique in that only businesses which are 51 percent Indian owned can display their products and services.

The first year was a success and the turnout is expected to be even better this year. Chamber members submit lists of who they would like to do business with — invitations are then sent to purchasing agents, buyers, and corporate entities based on their input.

Booth spaces are offered to chamber members at a reduced fee of \$20, then opened as available to non-member Indian-owned businesses for \$50.

Any Indian business owner interested in joining the chamber may join and also reserve their booth space for the show. If booth space is available, the fee for non-members is \$50.00.

For information on the American Indian Chamber of Commerce or any of its activities, call (918) 664-6211 or (918) 492-9639.

Creek communities increase activities during springtime

Okemah to hold monthly bingo, tournament

— Okemah Indian Community has scheduled its monthly bingo game at 7 p.m., May 1. Concessions will be provided.

— An April 16 and 17 pee wee basketball tournament has been scheduled. For more information, call the community office or smokeshop at 623-9227 or 623-2519. The community center is located two blocks south of Interstate 40 on state highway 27.

— Okemah area Indians over age 55 who are interested in home delivery of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Elderly Nutrition program meals may call the community office or smokeshop.

— Nancy Duncan, program coordinator, said the community is still accepting cash and canned food donations for its community food bank. Duncan reported Emma Lou Duncan was the winner of a drawing for plates raffled off at the community's late March food bank fundraiser.

Wetumka elects new community officers

— Wetumka Indian community elected new officers at its March regular meeting. New officers are: chair, Jonas Dunson; vice-chair, Dwayne Lowe; and secretary, Daryl Coachman.

Muscogee begins Creek language class

Muscogee Indian Community began holding Creek language classes in early April. The classes are being held from 7 to 9 p.m. each Thursday. The community center is located at 111 S. Virginia.

Koweta extends smokeshop building

— Construction on Koweta Indian Community's smokeshop has been completed. The newly-constructed space will be used as a giftshop and arts and crafts center, reporter Martha Squire said. A grand opening will be announced at a later date, she said.

— Community member Eloweda Tiger celebrated a March birthday. The community wishes her a happy belated birthday, Squire said.

Eufaula plans annual awards ceremony

— Eufaula Indian Community has scheduled its annual achievement awards ceremony for May 17. All Eufaula Public Schools students will be recognized for excellence in academics, sports, music, band, and other extracurricular activities, ceremony organizer Jerry Francis said.

— Francis said an adult also will be selected and announced as Eufaula Indian Community Indian of the year. The center is located at 806 W. Forest Ave.

JOM language class offered in Hanna

— Hanna Public Schools Johnson O'Malley Program is offering Mvskoke language classes to Indian children and their parents. The classes are held at 7 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday of each week and will be held through May 25. Sam Proctor is the class instructor. The classes are held at the Hanna High School Multipurpose Building.

Glenpool offers family workshops

— Glenpool Indian Community is offering family awareness workshops to members throughout April. The workshops are held at 7 p.m. each Thursday in the activity building. On April 15 information will be offered on child abuse prevention and funeral arrangements. Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and injury prevention will be the

topic of the April 22 meeting. The Creek Nation Housing Authority and elderly nutrition program are the subjects of the April meeting.

— On April 16 the community will be offering tourists dinner, a demonstration, and a tour of the community center through Tulsa Tours. The community center is located one block north of U.S. Highway 75 and 141st St.

Bristow offers youth assistance

— Bristow Indian Community is offering assistance to community children in first through twelfth grades. Assistance is being offered through the community's youth assistance program to youth needing funding for extracurricular school activities. Contact community chair Judy Riley at 367-5101 for eligibility requirements.

— A community information center has informally opened in the old community feed store. The office is open from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday and staffed by volunteers.

The staff has been distributing emergency assistance, and youth assistance applications, and any received tribal information which may be of assistance to members. The center's number is 367-2249. Riley may be called in the event of an emergency. The community is currently giving away free garden seed and wall paper at the information center.

— The community elected officers during its March regular meeting. Re-elected were: chair, Judy Riley; and vice-chair, Tom Watson. Newly elected was secretary Trish Curry.

— Every two weeks, beginning April 16, a 1 p.m. bingo game will be held for community elders in the nutrition center. The nine games are free to elders. The community center is located at 121 W. Lincoln.

Paden Creek in process of organizing

— Paden Indian Community members organized and elected temporary officers during a March meeting. Those elected March 15 were: chair, Mickey White; vice-chair, Bill Cobble; treasurer, Clonda Rogers; secretary, Mildred Sala; and reporter, Linda Allen.

The community met and discussed by-laws for the establishment of a constitution, potential business ventures, and fundraisers at a March 29 meeting.

Community members are encouraged to attend the meetings which are held at Paden City Hall, Allen said. For meeting times and dates, write Allen at: P.O. Box 245, Paden, OK 74860.



Richard Larney, manager of Okmulgee Indian Community's recently opened Wood Drive Smokeshop, cuts the ribbon at the shop's grand opening with the assistance of community members and the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors.

Sapulpa meetings well attended

— Phyllis Warrington, secretary-treasurer, reported over 60 members attended the March 8 regular meeting. Guest speakers were principal chief Bill Fife and executive director Jerry Wilson. The community office is located at 1030 E. Taft, Suite 110 in the Creek Hills Mall.

Checotah offers variety of classes

— Checotah Indian Community has been offering Mvskoke language, beading, and basket weaving classes to community members.

The language classes are held each Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information on beading and basket weaving classes, call the center at 473-5290. The center is located at 998 Maple.

— Fifty-four members attended the March regular meeting at which time they voted to hire Johnny Parker as full-time bingo hall manager. The community also voted in favor of sponsoring a girls' softball team.

Dewar holding quilting sessions

— Dewar Indian Community will hold its monthly grocery bingo game and food sale May 7.

— The food sale will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the bingo game will be held at 7 p.m.

— Community women began quilting last month. Interested members are invited to participate. The community center is located at 402 Luella St.

Duck Creek opens community smokeshop

The Duck Creek Indian Community Trading Post officially opened for business April 3. The trading post's hours are from 7 a.m. to dusk, Monday through Saturday and 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday. A grand opening for the new business will be held from 2 to 4 p.m., April 24. The trading post is located in the south portion of the community center at U.S. Highway 75 and S. 241st St.

Okmulgee staying active

— In March, the executive council meeting of officers

Creek places at spelling bee

WAGONER — Ten-year-old Tony Chalakee of Coweta recently completed with a host of Wagoner County school students in the 1993 county-wide spelling bee held March 3 in Wagoner.

Chalakee, a fifth-grade student at the Intermediate Grade Center in Coweta, finished third in the county-wide competition. He advanced to the fourth round before being eliminated from the contest.

Chalakee earned his right to compete at the county level by winning preliminary rounds at IGC in February.

Outside the classroom, Chalakee is an active participant in a summer youth baseball program. For three years, he played left field and first base with the Coweta Mets. The Mets placed first in their league each of those years.

Last year, Chalakee played for the Coweta Rangers on the pitchers mound and on third base. He also participated in the Tulsa league with the Tulsa Angels as a pitcher and left fielder.

Chalakee has recently joined the Tulsa Braves 12-and-under baseball team. He will play at various positions throughout the summer season. His special interest lies in speed skating.

He is the son of Tommy and Sherri Chalakee of Coweta.



Chalakee

Creek pair are honors graduates

BRISTOW — Rachel Yahola, Creek-Seminole, was recently named valedictorian of the eighth-grade class at Gypsy school, located southwest of Bristow. She has a grade point average of 3.8. Her parents are Thomas Yahola and Maxine Bucktrot; grandparents are Freeman and Maggie Hill, all of Bristow. Great grandmother is Sara Coker Hicks of Mason.



Yahola

BRISTOW — Jamie Edmondson, Creek, was named salutatorian of the eighth-grade class at Gypsy school. Her grade point average is 3.6. Her mother is Kelly Flores, of Tonkawa. She is the niece of Solomon and Kim Hill of Bristow. Grandparents are Leah and Levi Edmondson, also of Bristow.



Edmondson

Creek student makes international soccer team

TULSA — Summer Hight, a Creek student at Edison High School, has been selected for an international soccer team. She is one of the first two American Indians selected for the team.

Selections were made from around 400 players from different states in the region. Clive Griffith, an international soccer team representative attended one of Hight's games to observe one of her teammates who was trying out for the team. He noticed Hight's playing ability and later invited her to join the team. Hight is one of three Oklahoma girls in her age group who made the team.

The International Soccer Team will play in tournaments in London, England and Denmark. The tour will last 20 days. During the tour, the team will be coached by Southern Methodist University soccer coach.

During the Eleventh Annual Thanksgiving Indoor Tournament, held in Tulsa, Hight received the most valuable player award in her division for outstanding defensive games throughout the tournament. In addition to playing soccer for a classic

Creek named student of the month

WETUMKA — Angela Proctor was nominated A.M. Student of the Month at Wes-Watkins Area Vo-Tech. She is enrolled as a part-time student in Computerized Office Technology. Her selection was based on her grades, attendance, and work.

She is a senior attending Wetumka High School, and is the daughter of Malinda Noon and Luster Proctor.



Proctor

Financial aid applications accepted

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department is accepting applications for financial assistance from students planning to attend an institute of higher learning this fall. Applicants should be enrolled Creek tribal members. Before applying, applicants are to complete the federal financial aid packet. The college or university financial aid office will inform prospective students about their eligibility. If the school determines a student is eligible for financial aid, the student may be eligible for higher education assistance from the Muscogee Nation. Closing dates for applications are June 1, for the Bureau of Indian Affairs grant, and June 15 for the Muscogee Nation grant.

For further information, call or write the higher education department at (918) 756-8700 or P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

team, Aurora, from Broken Arrow, Hight plays for the Edison soccer, varsity basketball, and volleyball teams.

Academically, Summer is enrolled in honors classes and was named to the Edison High School Academic Achievement Honor Roll maintaining a 3.67 grade point average during her first semester also while participating in sports activities.

Hight enjoys participating in the Green Corn Ceremony dances held at the ceremonial grounds and regrets not being able to participate this summer.

Hight is the daughter of Pat Hight and the late Tommy Hight. Maternal grandparents are Susie Franks of Checotah and Spencer Franks of Wewoka.

Each player is responsible for providing their own funding. The cost of the tour is \$2,700, which will cover air travel, land transportation, a uniform, meals, and boarding.

A garage sale, food sale, and bingo will be at Yardeka Indian Community Center to help fund her expenses. The fund raising will be held April 17. The garage sale and food sale begin at 3 p.m.; bingo follows at 6 p.m. The center is located eight and one half miles south of Henryetta on Lake Road. There will also be raffles for Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo and Checotah Indian Community Bingo game packs.

Sisters excel at Gypsy

BRISTOW — Beverly Hill, a Creek-Seminole fifth-grader represented Gypsy School in a free-throw shooting contest held February at Allen-Bowden School in Sapulpa. Although she was eliminated in the first round, Hill competed against other girls from the fifth through 8th grades.



Beverly Hill

Tamara Hill, Creek-Seminole, was runner-up in a spelling bee at Gypsy School. Tamara, a third-grader competed at the Creek County Spelling Bee in Mannford Feb. 19. She is also active in track and will be trying for her third straight gold medal in the Creek Olympics 50- and 100-meter dash during the Creek Nation Festival.



Tamara Hill

Beverly and Tamara are the daughters of Kimberly and Solomon "Tonto" Hill. Grandmother is Jo Ann Hill, all of Bristow. Great grandmother is Sara Coker Hicks of Mason.

Tribal births and birthdays

Seth Deere and Isaac Byrd

WETUMKA — Seth Ian Deere celebrated his first birthday Jan. 12. Deere is the son of Lenora and James Deere of Holdenville. Paternal grandparents are, Frances Hicks of Wetumka and James Deere Jr. of Tahlequah. Maternal grandparents are Leonard and Augustine Harjo of Okemah.

Issac Sean Byrd celebrated his first birthday Jan. 27. He is the son of Christopher and Melanie Byrd of Holdenville. Maternal grandparents are Mrs. Hicks and Melvin Hicks of Konawa. Paternal grandparents are Richard and Edith Byrd of Holdenville.

Both parties were held at Mrs. Hicks residence on Jan. 12. The party theme was Sesame Street. Those attending were great-grandmother the late Lillie Canard, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Earnest Harjo

HENRYETTA — Earnest C. Harjo turned 13 on March 30. A party was held in his honor at his Henryetta home. Harjo is the son of Shelia Harjo and the grandson of Naomi Harjo of Okemah and Sallie Harjo of Seminole. His sisters are Sharon, Sharla, and Shanise.

Katie Keahbone

CHECOTAH — Katie Elizabeth Keahbone celebrated her first birthday on Feb. 23. She is the daughter of Onzell and Gerald Keahbone. Paternal grandparents are the late Thomas and Rachel Keahbone. Maternal grandparents are Sue and the late Sam Harper.

Hinhan-Ska Haney

TULSA — Hinhan-Ska (White Owl Boy) Haney celebrated his sixth birthday at Chuck E. Cheese Pizza Place with 20 people attending. Birthday cake and pepperoni pizza were served. The party theme was Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Haney is Creek-Seminole-Lakota and is the son of Michael and Cheri Haney. Haney has two older sisters, Ahkehdyo Haney and Tricia Fields, and a brother, Little Crow Haney. Paternal grandparents are Norman Haney Sr. and Evelyn Brave Haney. Maternal grandparents are Jessie Pauline Haney and the late Charles L. Sherrell.



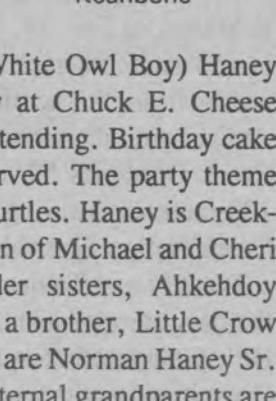
Byrd, Deere



Harjo



Keahbone



Creek freshmen named Coweta's most athletic

COWETA — Kristen Jean Childers and Randell Brown, were voted most athletic of the freshman class at Coweta High School.

Childers, the daughter of Billie and Ken Childers, participates on the freshman basketball team, varsity softball team, and the freshman cheerleading squad. She is also a member of the student council, academic team, is class president, class queen attendant, and was elected vice-president of the National Junior Honor Society.

Childers is the granddaughter of Joann and the late Andy Bible and the late Violet and Mose Childers.

Brown, the son of Phil and Janice Brown of Coweta, has attended Coweta schools since the second grade. He plays basketball, baseball, and football. He is interested in outdoor activities.



Childers, Coweta basketball coach
Mike Phillips, and Brown

Creek grappler competes at state wrestling tournament

COWETA — Freshman Michael Miller had a significant role on Coweta High School's Class 3A Wrestling Championship.

Miller compiled a 29-10 individual record for the season packed. He was one of six Coweta wrestlers who qualified for the state championships held at Oklahoma State University.

He scored two team points by way of a major decision in the first round of the consolation bracket.

Miller is the son of Chebon Lawrence and Ernie Miller.

Creek student attends conference

WASHINGTON D.C. — Melinda Thompson, a student at Haskell Junior College, attended the National Congress of American Indians recently with Jolene Newholly, Oglala.

The pair were representing the Haskell Junior College Unity Council. While attending NCAI, the pair met Mike Anderson, Creek, the executive director of NCAI.

Thompson is the daughter of Sonny and Betsy Taryole of Henryetta.



Newholly, Anderson, and Thompson



Miller, on top

Creek graduates from boot camp

SAN DIEGO — Wesley Alexander Roulston, 19 of Newalla, recently graduated from Marine Corps Reserve Drills and Advanced Infantry Training in San Diego to become a Marine. He has returned to Camp Pendleton for his reconnaissance training. Roulston, is a 1992 graduate of Little Axe High School. He is the son of Joammie Roulston of Newalla and the grandson of Rev. Alex Burgess of Bowlegs and Joan Burgess of Wolf.



Roulston

Creeks observe 50th anniversary

BROKEN ARROW — Charles and Virginia Tiger Noble celebrated their golden anniversary Feb. 13 at the National Guard Armory. A reception and dinner was hosted by their children, Charles Noble of Spokane, Wash., Sally Gipson and Norman Williams of Broken Arrow, and Margaret Honyonti of Hotchkiss, Ariz.

The Nobles have 10 grandchildren. They were married Feb. 16, 1943 in Claremore. They attend Cedar Creek Baptist Church in Coweta.



The Nobles

Morris student wins Johnson O'Malley poster contest



Daley, JOM manager Ken Taryole, Jensen

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson O'Malley poster contest winners were: first place, Chris Daley, Creek-Chickasaw from Morris High School; second place, Elizabeth Peters, Creek from Eufaula High School; third place, Tyler McIntosh, Creek from Eufaula High School; and fourth place, Justin Jensen, Navajo from Okmulgee High School.

Jensen won grand prize at the overall level. His work was featured on the cover of the JOM Conference program and poster held March 23 through 25.

Child abuse prevention program begins awareness campaign

OKMULGEE — April is National Child Abuse Prevention month. The tribal children and family services program are planning a benefit stompdance, April 24, at Oklahoma National Guard Armory in Okemah. Proceeds will benefit tribal youth activities.

CAPE is also presenting an awareness of child abuse and neglect campaign in conjunction with the Glenpool Indian Community's family awareness workshops every Thursday in April from 7 to 9 p.m. April 22 and April 29. The tribe's children and family services will also sponsor a blue ribbon campaign. A ribbon tied to a car antenna symbolizes the campaign against child abuse and is dedicated to the memory of child abuse victims. Call (918) 756-2112 or toll-free, 1 (800) 521-5432. Visit the office at 1801 E. 4th St. on the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee campus for more information.

Creek Marine Corps captain presents officer's sword to tribe

by Stephanie Berryhill

OKMULGEE — Hoping his Marine Corp officer's sword will be an inspiration to Creek youth, Captain Kenneth R. Davis presented it to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in March.

As he believes he is the only Creek officer in the U.S. Marine Corp, Davis hopes it will be displayed as a constant reminder of what can be achieved through hard work and education.

"It's my personal gift to the Muscogee (Creek) Indian Nation [from] one of theirs that has accomplished. It's a symbolic gift of pride and respect that I have for my people."

As Antitank Platoon Commander, 8th Tank Battalion, in support of the 2d Battalion, 2d Marine Regiment, attached to the 6th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division, he was awarded with the Bronze Star Medal for heroic service from Feb. 24 through 28, 1991 in Operation Desert Storm.

Creek college students learn unique trade

story and photo by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Shannon Brown and Shannon Miller not only share the same first name, but they also share the determination to complete their education at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee.

Both students are nearing the completion of achieving their associate's degree in saddle and boot making after much hard work and in overcoming some difficult situations that could have hampered their progress.

For Brown, a Creek citizen, his only regret about attending OSU-Okmulgee was that he waited two years before enrolling in the program.

"I received a scholarship when I was in high school at Liberty Mounds, but I waited a couple of years before enrolling," he said.

But his interest in saddle and boot making continued to build within him.

"Before I enrolled in school, I would come in here and just hang around and watch everybody making things," Brown said. "I couldn't get away from here, so I just decided this is what I should do."

With the help of his instructor, Mike Dewitt, he landed a summer job in a shoe repair store in Stillwater. That was enough to sell him in the business.

"There are only two shoe repair stores in Stillwater and the owner of the one I worked at said he might sell me his business when he retires," Brown said.

Miller is a mother of three children, yet she was able to reach her goal of completing her course of study in saddle and boot making. Although she has two trimesters to go, she already has a job awaiting her when she completes her program of study at OSU-Okmulgee.

"Tell the mothers that don't think they can be a mother and a student at the same time, that they can do it," Miller said when asked if her children hampered her.

Miller said her ability in making handcrafts led her to study saddle and boot making, a program offered only at OSU-Okmulgee.

Brown has a 3.7 grade point average and like Miller, both are considered good, hard working students by their instructors.

"They're both good hard working students with a lot of ambition," said instructor Linda Tallent.



Brown, Miller

"Both students are doing real good," Dewitt said of the two Indian students. "Both are enjoyable to be around. They have good attitudes and have good work ethics."

Dewitt's instruction to Brown hasn't gone unnoticed by the Hectorville resident.

"My goal is to be as good a boot and shoe repairman as Mike Dewitt is," Brown said.

Brown's own ambition to succeed can be traced to his father, Otis Brown.

"My dad impressed upon me not to sit back and wait for someone to hand me something," Brown said. "I'm proud of my Indian heritage. I hope I can be an example to an Indian child to set a goal and stick to it."

It appears the two students are becoming that type of example.



Berryhill, Davis

By contributing his sword, he hopes it will be an inspiration to Creek youth, as the fighting spirit of the Redstick warriors inspired him during battle. In honor of his Mvskoke ancestors, he wore a small, red painted oak stick on a cord around his neck daily.

Davis said he would like to see the tribe found a Redstick society recognizing citizens who have honorably served in the U.S. military. In the event it is instituted, Davis said it should be retroactive to include such heroes as World War II Col. Ernest Childers, a Medal of Honor recipient.

The Marine Corp officially presented Davis with the Bronze Star Medal Aug. 4, 1992. Representing the Muscogee Nation was National Council Representative Thomas Berryhill.

Currently, Davis is the commanding officer of Battery "K," 4th Battalion, 14th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division (Reserve) in Huntsville, Ala. He resides in Nashville, Tenn. with his wife, Filena deLos Angelos Morales, and their two children, Matthew Menawa and Angelica Mercedes. He is the great-grandson of Hugh Henry, original Creek allottee and founder of the city of Henryetta.

Religious briefs

Springtown Methodist

BROKEN ARROW — Springtown United Methodist Church will observe Native American awareness day April 25 with Rev. George Miller, White Eagle United Methodist Church, as guest evangelist during its April 23, 24, and 25 revival.

Circuit churches will be leading devotionals each evening. Sunrise service will be held April 25 with breakfast afterward. The morning worship service will be held at 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch, Sunday school, a special devotional led by church youth, communion, and an evening service.

The church has scheduled bible studies each Wednesday in April. The studies will begin at 7 p.m. Members will take turns leading the study with songs, bible drills, or testimony.

The church holds service each Sunday. The pastor is Rev. Newman Frank. The church is located at 41st and Oakgrove Road, east of Broken Arrow.

Tulsa Indian Methodist

TULSA — Tulsa United Indian Methodist Church has designated April 18 as women's Sunday in the pulpit, Pastor Taylor Harjo said. Wacomis Lewis will be the speaker during the 11 a.m. worship service.

The church will observe the UMC's Native American Awareness Day April 25. Harjo said the morning message will be conducted in Mvskoke-Seminole and English. Church members will wear their native dress.

The church's evangelism workshop, originally scheduled March 27, has been rescheduled for 6 p.m., April 25.

Regular church board meetings are held at 1 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month. The church's United Methodist Women's unit holds monthly meeting at 6 p.m., the first Sunday of each month.

A UMW luncheon and meeting is also held on the third Sunday of each month. The church is located at 1901 N. College.

As a member of the UMC General Board of Publications, Harjo recently attended one of its two yearly meetings. The Nashville, Tenn. based board held its meeting in Savannah, Ga.

Harjo was one of 50 board members discussing board business during the March meeting.

Broken Arrow Methodist

BROKEN ARROW — Broken Arrow United Methodist Church is holding an April 17 gospel singing. The singing will begin at 7 p.m.

Alonzo Battiest will be the master of ceremonies.

The church pastor is Rev. Timothy Byington. The church is located at 2028 W. 141st St.

Thlophlocco Methodist

THLOPTHLOCCO — Thlophlocco United Methodist Church is holding second Sunday service April 25. Sunday school will begin at 10 a.m. Dinner will be served following the worship service. The United Methodist Women will meet following the fellowship dinner.

The church recently underwent renovations. The church steps were among the repairs.

Rev. Ray McGilbray is church pastor.

The church is located eight miles south of Okemah on state highway 27 and eight miles west of Wetumka on state highway 27.

Little Cussetah Methodist

SCHULTER — Matthew Lee King, 2-month-old son of Karen and Wilson King, Jr. was dedicated to Little Cussetah United Methodist Church March 14. Julian Harjo, 1-year-old son of Scott and Georgia Harjo, was dedicated to the church March 28.

The church's fourth Sunday will be held April 25. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. The worship service begins at 11 a.m. A fellowship dinner will be held following the dinner. The church pastor is Thomas Long.

To get to the church, turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and Wilson Road and drive two miles to the first intersection. Turn north and drive three quarters of a mile. The church is located on the west side of the road.

Salt Creek Methodist

WETUMKA — Salt Creek United Methodist Church has scheduled a May 5, 6, and 7 revival. The service will begin at 7 nightly.

Second Sunday service will be April 25. Sunday school begins at 10 a.m. The worship service will be held at 11 a.m. A fellowship dinner will be held following the service. The church pastor is Rev. Ray McGilbray.

The church is located eight miles north on state highway 48 and two miles east of Holdenville or seven miles west on state highway 9 and two miles south of Wetumka.

Newtown Methodist

OKMULGEE — Newtown United Methodist Church is observing the UMC's Native American Awareness Day April 25 with a special offering to be contributed to young ministers.

The United Methodist Women have rescheduled their meeting from April 11 to 2 p.m., April 25.

The church recently underwent physical improvements. The sanctuary has been painted, and new carpet, and sidewalks have been laid.

The church pastor is Rev. Sammy Chupco.

To get to the church, turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56 in Okmulgee. Drive west to the stop sign and south to the intersection of Okmulgee and Eufaula streets. Follow Eufaula Street three miles until the road curves north. The church is located one mile from the bend, on the east side of the road.

Honey Creek Methodist

HONEY CREEK — The Northeast District Senior Methodists' quarterly meeting was hosted by Honey Creek United Methodist Church. The organization's annual campmeeting will be held at Newtown, west of Okmulgee, June 4, 5, and 6.

Member Pearl Thomas is an Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference representative on the United Methodist Church's Board of Global Ministries. Thomas will be representing the OIMC at the April 23 through 27 meeting at Lake Junaluska, N.C.

The church pastor is Thomas Long.

To get to Honey Creek church from Okmulgee, drive four miles west on state highway 56. Drive south three and one-half miles and turn west and follow the detour road for approximately one and one-half miles. Turn west and then south at the old Honey Creek store. The church is located on the west side of the road.

Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground

DUCK CREEK — Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground is holding a wild onion dinner at Duck Creek Indian Community Center April 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The all-you-can-eat dinner costs \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under.

The center is located at U.S. Highway 75 and S. 241st St.

Submit your church news to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Please send event announcements four to six weeks in advance to ensure proper and timely notification.

Original allottee invaluable source of history, knowledge

by Stephanie Berryhill

OKMULGEE — At 93 years old, original allottee Polly Miller Homma has a mind sharper than most adults one-third of her age.

An invaluable source of local history, folklore, and information, she can recall — with great detail — events and memories that occurred in her life well over 80 years ago.

Homma celebrated her 93rd birthday recently. She was born northwest of Okmulgee to Steven and Effa Berryhill Miller Feb. 18, 1900.

She is a life-long member of Newtown United Methodist Church and their oldest living member. Homma belongs to the Wind Clan and Concharity Tribal Town.

The secret to her astute mind — "I don't know; when people ask me things I answer them right off, I don't know where I keep it (knowledge). Sometimes when I get sick I forget things, but I never do forget the old-timers."

Homma recalls the era when Newtown was called Tvlofv Mucvse. "No one could say Tvlofv Mucvse, so they turn around and say English."

She remembers the day the church received electricity and the hub bub it stirred among the church women around 1910.

Church member Stella Hanes had married non-Indian Tennessee native Porter Cox, whose physical



photo by Stephanie Berryhill
Miss Creek Nation Leigh Anne Downing, offered
Polly Homma birthday greetings Feb. 18

appearance and dress was of great curiosity to the children. He was an electrician by trade and offered to provide electrical service to Tvlofv Mucvse. Most women were in favor of it, as the children often burned themselves by coming in contact with the wood burning stoves. But one elder church mother, reluctant to give up her wood stove, protested and said she would not stand for it.

When the day came for the church vote upon the electricity issue, she was the first to jump up in support of it, Homma said. The woman's daughter exclaimed, "But mama, I thought you didn't want

it," and she replied, "Well, I changed my mind."

Homma was born paralyzed on the right side of her body. As a little girl, she would sit on the porch of her grandmother Peggy Berryhill's camphouse, longing to climb trees and play with the other children. They did not want her around; being partially crippled she could not walk very well and often had to be picked up when she fell down.

Ironically, she has outlived most of her peers despite never having been physically healthy. She reasons that being confined to her home, she didn't physically exert and abuse her body as much as her healthy peers had the opportunity to do.

"One thing, all the life I live, look like I wasn't away. I couldn't go away from my mother cause she was always there to pick me up when I fall."

Women visiting her mother's camphouse would say to her, "'Why don't you go play with those other kids? Children aren't supposed to hang around their mama.' But I was quiet and didn't say anything, neither did mama. She didn't take up for me."

Because the other children rejected her attempts to play with them, Homma occupied her childhood years listening to the adults' conversations. She contends her ability to listen is why she is so knowledgeable. "That's how come I know so much about

please see ALLOTTEE..., page 11

Salt Creek member reflects on life, service to church

contributed by Kelly Tiger Jr.

HOLDENVILLE — Family and friends filled Tuckabutchee Methodist Church March 7 to celebrate the 90th birthday of fullblood, original allottee Nancy Harjo Beaver.

The church listened attentively as Beaver talked about the long life God has blessed her with and her Christian faith. She said the prayers she offers daily during the morning, noon, and night — combined with her love and concern for loved ones and friends — has sustained her through 90 years. Now in her elderly years, she leans on the Lord for strength and assurance of someday seeing the many loved ones who have departed from this walk of life. Beaver also commented on the old Mvkoke hymn "Estofvn Ayahaks?" and its meaning to her.

The celebration coincided with the church's second Sunday church service. The morning sermon was delivered by Beaver's son-in-law, elder Kelly Tiger Sr. of Hilltop Presbyterian Church, Wewoka. After singing "Happy Birthday" to Beaver, dinner was served with an abundance of traditional Mvskoke foods. A birthday cake was then served to the birthday party attenders.

The afternoon was filled with the singing of many hymns. Sermons of tribute were delivered by: Rev. Houston Tiger, Sand Creek Eufaula Baptist; Rev. Robert Kernal Sr., Wewoka Hilltop; Rev. George Bruner, Tallahassee Methodist; and Rev. Joe Tiger, host pastor.

The morning message was taken from Efesvlike 6:1-3: "1. Hopuetake, ce'ckviken em vphicvks, Pucase ofvn, heyt vfcct omevkv." 2. C'erken hvtvm ce'cken vrakkuecv, mvt vhakv temfvcctv ocat enhvteceskv tes.

3. Cenherven, momethofunen ekvnvn oh vretskvret." Beaver was born March 3, 1903 to Rev. Lilla and

Rhoda Scott Harjo. Her maternal grandparents are the late Louisa and Yaholargee Scott. Paternal grandparents are the late Spokogee and Lindy Chupco Harjo. Beaver is knowledgeable of her family history, which has been recorded by her grandson, Kelly Tiger Jr.

Upon the death of her mother and remarriage of her father, Beaver, along with her brother, was reared by her grandma Harjo and uncles, Sunday, Cheparney, Thompson, and Edmund Harjo.

She married John Beaver, son of George and Polly Stidham Beaver in 1927. Mr. Beaver died in 1938, leaving her to raise their five children; the late John Jr.; Wanda; Eugene; Cora; and Norean.

She was baptized in 1905 at Little Wewoka United Methodist Church where her mother and her uncle, Rev. James Scott, were members. She joined Salt Creek United Methodist Church in March of 1920 and was accepted by Middie Waddie. She joined the United Methodist Church's Ladies Home Aid Society, now known as the United Methodist Women. She is also active in the Northeast District Senior Methodist's organization, previously known as the Retired Minister's organization. She strongly supported the organization on behalf of her brother, the late Rev. Alfred Harjo, and continues to support the senior's organization currently.

As the oldest member of Salt Creek, Nancy has been a church mother and second women's leader for over 20 years.

As Nancy is the eldest of a huge family of relatives, it seems fitting that she has inherited the role of family matriarch from her grandma Harjo, who was a pillar of



Beaver

strength over 50 years ago.

Beaver expressed her gratitude to those with enough love and respect to attend the occasion. She said "mvto" to those who sent cards, offered telephone greetings, and visited during the week of her birthday. She will never forget this wonderful occasion.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

LILLIE CANARD

WETUMKA — Funeral services were held for Lillie "Linnie" Canard Feb. 4 at Sand Creek Baptist Church. Revs. Harry Anderson and Mose Scott officiated.

Canard was born March 13, 1924 to Yana and Nicey Lowe Johnson and died Feb. 1 at her Wetumka home at the age of 68.

She was raised in Hughes County and attended Mingo and Moss schools.

At the age of 18, she married Bill McGirt and made their home in Yeager. He preceded her in death in May 1950.

In 1952 she married Joseph Canard and made their home in Oklahoma City. After retirement, they returned to Wetumka. She was employed later with the Creek Nation elderly nutrition program.

As a child she attended Thewarle Methodist Church. In 1964 she became a member of Sand Creek Baptist Church. She was involved with various church and community activities.

She was preceded in death by: her oldest son, Robert McGirt in 1992; her oldest granddaughter, Lynn Allison Hicks in 1985; and husband, Joe Canard in 1983.

Survivors include: one son, Fredrick McGirt of Oklahoma City; three daughters, Frances Hicks, Mary Jones, and Dee Ann Yargee all of Wetumka; one brother, Cecil Johnson of Los Angeles, Calif.; one sister, Emma Hudson of Mustang; 15 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; along with nieces; nephews; and other relatives.

Pallbearers were: Daniel Coachman; Darrell Coachman; Darrell Hudson; Sam Martin; Steve Wilson; and Jimmie Jones. Honorary pallbearers were Alabama Ceremonial Ground members.

MOSE SCOTT

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services were held for Rev. Mose Scott, age 60, on March 22. Revs. Christopher Harjo and Alex Buck officiated the service held at the Salt Creek Baptist Church.

Rev. Scott was born May 7, 1932 in Hughes County to Daniel and Roseanna Hobia Scott. He died March 17 at the Wetumka General Hospital.

Scott was raised in Hughes County and attended the Lawnwood school, Wetumka Central Grade School, Weleetka school, and finished his education at Chillicoche Indian School.

He entered the United States Army where he served in the military police and was honorably discharged Oct. 31, 1960.

In June 1955, he was married to Elouise Tiger at Okemah. They lived most of their lives in Hughes and Okfuskee counties. Rev. Scott was ordained to the gospel ministry Aug. 25, 1968. He served as an adult Bible teacher and had pastored Tookparfka and Salt Creek Indian Baptist churches. He was also chief of the Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town.

He was preceded in death by: his brother,

Sampson Scott; and uncle, Albert Thomas.

Survivors include: his wife, Elouise Scott of the home; five sons, George and Elliot, both of the home, Marcus and Curtis, both of Oklahoma City, and Allen of Wewoka; three daughters, Gwen Walker of Oklahoma City, Rose Bell of Brea, Calif., and Julie Scott of Tulsa; a nephew, Kenneth Wayne Scott of Tulsa; eight grandchildren; and several other relatives; and many friends.

PACHE LAMAR GREGORY

MIDWEST CITY — Funeral services were held for Pache Lamar Gregory, Dec. 31, at the Wickline United Methodist Church.

Gregory was born June 20, 1913 in Jenks to Foster and Lodie Gregory.

Gregory was chosen as outstanding athlete at Edmond High School and attended the University of Oklahoma as a freshman on an athletic scholarship.

He returned to Edmond and earned a bachelor's degree from Central State College and later received a master's degree and a counselor's certificate from O.U.

Gregory taught and coached for 37 years at Crooked Oak, Fitzhugh, Sapulpa, and Midwest City schools.

He also served four years in the U.S. Army in Europe during World War II.

Survivors include: his wife, Bernice; two sons, Bobby Lamar of Shawnee, and Michael Dean of Dallas, Texas; a brother, Dee of Arkansas City, Kans.; four grandchildren; several nieces; and nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother Nelson F. Gregory.

Gregory was a member of Wickline United Methodist Church, Methodist Men's Club, Oklahoma Officials Association, National Education Association, Oklahoma Education Association, Red Red Rose, Moose Lodge, and the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement System. Former classmates are establishing a scholarship in Gregory's honor at the University of Oklahoma. Memorial contributions may be made to Wickline United Methodist Church.

JOHN L. FRANK

OKEMAH — Funeral services were held for John L. Frank, 82, of Okemah on Feb. 15 at Arbeka United Indian Methodist Church. Revs. Walter McGirt and Joe Lowe Jr. officiated the service.

Frank was born July 8, 1910 in Okemah and died Feb. 12.

Preceding him in death were: his wife, Nancy Chupco Frank; three brothers, Joe, Henry and William; and two sisters, Ella and Nora.

Survivors include: two sons, Roger Frank of

Oklahoma City, and Ron Frank of Shawnee; four daughters, Mary Ybarra of Omaha, Neb., Darlene Taryole of Okmulgee, Michele Billie of Tulsa, and Janine Bond of Ada; one brother, Cornelius of Okemah; one sister, Lucille LeClaire of Bristow; eleven grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

BENJAMIN CODY O'CONNELL

BROKEN ARROW — Graveside services for Benjamin Cody O'Connell, infant son of Steve and Leann O'Connell of Tulsa, were held Feb. 8 at the Floral Haven Cemetery. Rev. Jim Wesley officiated the service.

O'Connell was born Feb. 2 and died Feb. 5 at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa.

Survivors include: his parents; two brothers, Matt and Scotty of the home; maternal grandfather, M.B. Bennett of Skiatook; paternal grandparents, Melford and Mary Hobia of Weleetka; great-grandmother, Cynthia Day of Wetumka; five uncles, Donnie Tiger of Sapulpa, Richard Tiger of Aberdeen, S.D., Mark Tiger of Tahlequah, and J.R. Bennett of Skiatook; five aunts, Kelly and Karen Hobia, both of Tahlequah, Sharon Hobia of Vanderwagon, N.M., Bonita Hobia of Weleetka and Faye Young of Claremore.

Gratitude

The family of Lillie Canard, would like to thank the Sand Creek Baptist Church, the late Rev. Mose Scott, Rev. Harry Anderson, and everyone who helped prepare food. Special thanks to Alabama Ceremonial Ground members, nurses, and nurses aids at the Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah.

Lilly Canard family

The family of John L. Frank extends their heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful acts of kindness throughout the funeral process. The cards, calls, visits, food, flowers, and most of all, the prayers were an enormous source of comfort. Words cannot express our appreciation for the many family and friends who were there when we needed them.

John L. Frank family

1. Hesaketvmese, mv pu pucase Cesvs Klist Erke, merkv Erke, momet, emahlvpvtektv omvlkv em Hesaketvmese,

2. Mv emahlvpvketvn Hesaketvmest, pume mahusan es pu mahlpataan estemerkv ofv vpokan eremahlvpvteyvren pu feknokketv omvlkv pu mahlpataan, vrakkuehocekv.

3. Klist em estemerketv ep ofv sulket oecake etvpomen Klist eteropotten pum emahlvpvketv sulket oecakekv.

II Corinthians 1:3-5

In brief

Governor picks Eufaula mayor

EUFALIA — Oklahoma Gov. David Walters has appointed Eufaula mayor Joe Johnson to serve as vice-chairman of the community empowerment group, along with thirty of what the governor termed as the brightest minds in the state. "We have asked some of the best people in their fields to serve," Walters said.

Johnson, who is also chief justice of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court, is serving his 18th year as mayor. He has served 16 years on the Oklahoma Municipal League Board of Directors, as well as being its president for two terms. He is the first mayor in the history of the 75-year-old organization to be elected to consecutive terms. The league serves 400 cities and towns in Oklahoma. Johnson was selected as mayor of the year, receiving the George Nigh Award in 1992.

Creek leads area health service

PORLTAND, Ore. — James R. Floyd, Creek, has been appointed director of the Portland area Indian Health Service. The announcement of Floyd's appointment was made in December by Dr. Everett R. Rhoades, director of the Indian Health Service.

Previous to his position at the Portland IHS, Floyd was employed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a health system's specialist in the community health representatives program. In 1989 he became associate director of area operations which included finance, personnel, planning, environmental health, contracting, alcohol treatment, and tribal operations departments.

Floyd received his bachelor's degree in health care administration from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and his master's in public administration from Portland State University. Additionally, he is a graduate of the executive program in managed care from the University of Missouri, Kansas City.

Oil company seeks information

TULSA — Keener Oil Company would like to contact Lola Mae Parker, daughter and heir of Nettie Harjo Gutierrez, deceased. If deceased, they want to contact her heirs and Stella Knight, also known as Stella Peters, daughter and heir of Gutierrez. If deceased, the company would appreciate a response from Peters' heirs. Contact: J.L. Overlease, 320 S. Boston, Suite 1026, Tulsa, OK 74103 or call (918) 587-4157.

Communities

continued from page 4

voted to reclassify its smokeshop stampers as clerks because of tribal wholesale and delivery of tobacco goods to tribally licensed smokeshops. The meetings are held at 7 p.m., on the first Monday of each month. All executive council meetings are open to members. The center is located one quarter of a mile east of U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Chair Bernice Hale said the Wood Drive smokeshop's new hours are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Hale reported the community contributed \$500 to the Okmulgee High School Indian Club's recent Washington D.C. trip.



Johnson

Allottee recalls yesterday; grateful for today

continued from page 9

people and the church."

When she was young, Tylof Mucvse church members would camp and hold services from Wednesday through Monday morning. Services were held on Wednesdays and Thursdays, she said. The members fasted on Fridays; on Saturdays, they went into town to purchase food goods. "They had all Indian food - tvkluk tokse, sofke, spare ribs, all kinds of hominy, grape dumplings. They had all kinds of food; they never lacked for nothing. We were well fed children."

Mondays were reserved for discussing church business and holding "forgiving" services in which children were not

allowed to attend. She recounted the story of two adversaries who had made a commitment to forgiving each other during one Monday morning service. The two women were brought to the front of the church by the pastor. One woman, instead of forgiving the other, had hidden a stick under her apron, pulled it out and hit the other woman over the head. "Boy they had a battle. The church was just small, box size. The church was falling down and everybody cornering up. The old ones couldn't [physically] hold everyone up. They had a great battle in that church and there was no more forgiving; it was worse than ever." Homma believes the church has changed

drastically — for better and worse — since she was a child. She contends the length of campmeetings and services are getting shorter and shorter. Just after the turn of the century, up to a dozen camphouses resided on the church ground, full of life. The construction of the church's fellowship hall marked the end of its family-occupied camphouse tradition. Homma misses those days, but thinks some changes are for the good. When the fellowship hall was constructed, the expense involved in upkeep and feeding at individual camps was no longer economically feasible, she said.

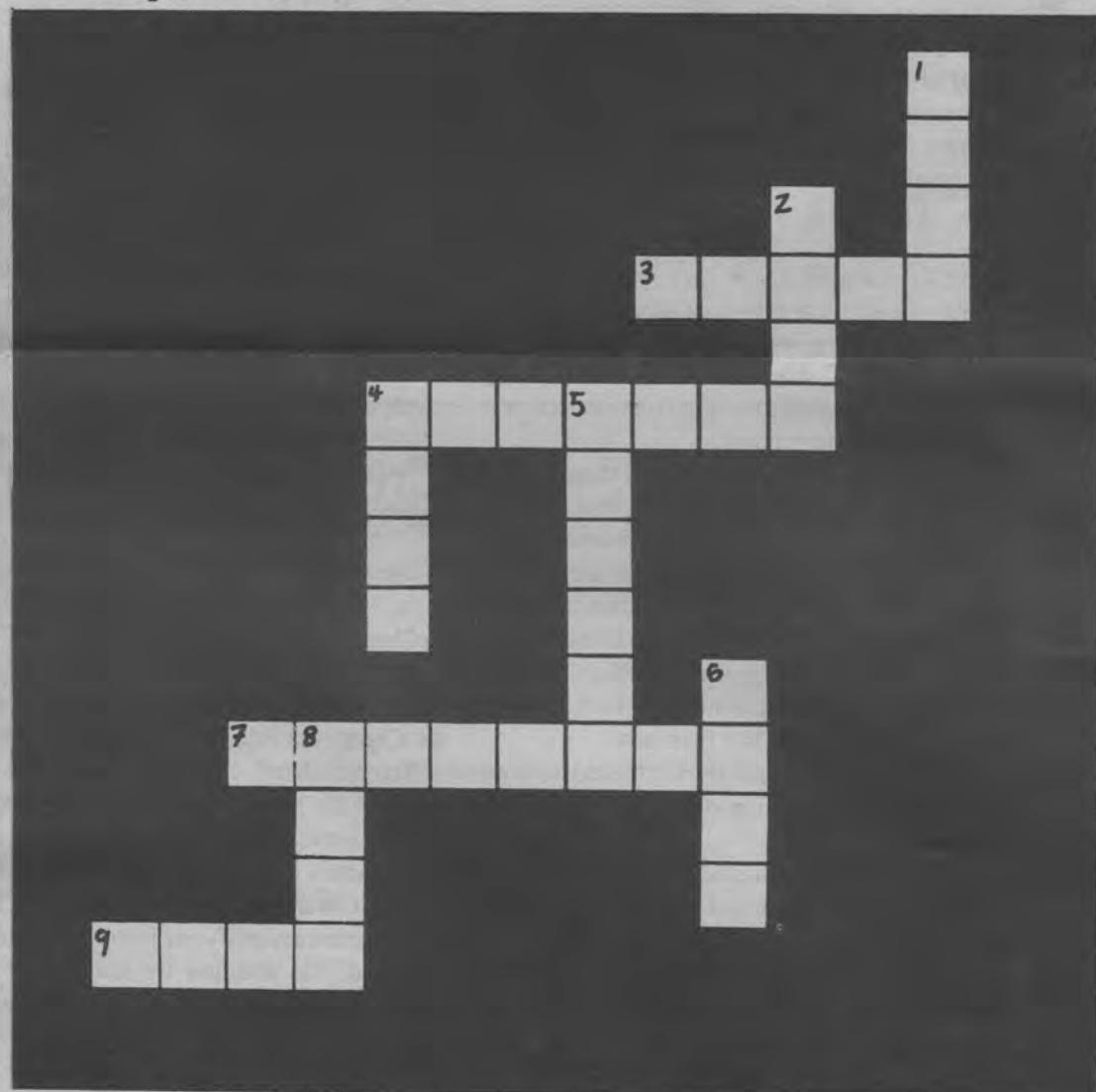
Though bedfast she still derives strength from God and her Christian faith. "When the

Lord wants you to know something he tells you — in a dream or a whisper — he gives you that feeling. I'm always laying here with [that] wonderful feeling."

Although Homma lives alone, her small home is always buzzing with friends, relatives, and home health nurses who constantly come to visit and check on her.

"I always said I never will go to the nursing home. I'm never sorry for myself or lonely. I love to visit — people just come and go. I know many people and I'm always glad to see them come and when that person leaves, someone else comes. I'm just happy. I'm glad that God let me live this long."

Punkv Akkopvnkv



Tvnkake ocan este cate punkv sohfvc fvces.

Fill in the blanks with Muskokee words that match the English words.

Aklatkv

1. an apostle
2. yellow-green
4. tail
5. chicken
6. my head
8. front

Vmelvpke

3. sacred
4. little girl
7. chair
9. apple

These materials were produced by Enfoletv Momen Opvnaka Lvce, with thanks to Norma Knight for translation, Ramona Mason for the crossword puzzle, and Z. John Skeeter for the artwork. The spelling of the words in the puzzle is taken from the *English and Muskokee Dictionary* and the *Dictionary of the Muskokee or Creek Language in Creek and English*, both by Loughridge and Hodge.

1. cane	Answers
2. lane	8. homy
3. sacred	9. svty
4. hvec	5. tolos
5. ohliketv	6. cvkv
6. cvkv	7. ohliketv
7. ohliketv	8. homy
8. homy	9. svty
9. svty	10. ohliketv

WASKO



Crow to influence national health care reform policy

continued from page 1

the other 500 or so people involved in the process have been working seven days a week. Initially, she said they were discouraged from having any contact with the press, but that is changing.

"Now, I think Mrs. Clinton and the task force see the need to really go ahead and educate the public and discuss the task force," Crow said.

"I basically can talk a little about the task force. We are looking at a better-managed health care system. Billions are being spent on health care, but not all Americans are getting health care."

As to specific options, she remained reticent, saying task force leaders did not want to emphasize one item over another at this point in the process.

"The real neat thing is they have received thousands of letters," Crow said. "I knew they would, but I didn't realize they would read them. We are really listening to the American public. Some are sending in good ideas."

She said Mrs. Clinton, appointed to head the task force by her husband, remains extremely involved in the day-to-day process. When Mrs. Clinton was forced to cancel a speech to college nursing officials here on Tuesday, her staff asked Crow to step in for the first lady.

She expressed hope her presence during the closed door meeting will focus more attention on Oklahoma and its Indian population.

"I think Oklahoma is very unique," she said referring to the 1980's, which saw a depressed economy wipe away much of the progress the state had made in health care.

"Our state has really been hit hard by financial cuts."

In addition, Crow said, Oklahoma's Indian population, the largest of any state, brings an added perspective. Her role on the Clinton health care reform task force is not the first time Crow became involved in health issues on the national level.

During the Reagan administration, again following a letter on the issue, she was appointed as the only minority to his first national AIDS task force. Later, Crow developed an AIDS prevention program for the homeless in Tulsa.

The first woman to be elected to an executive office of the tribe, Crow has a bachelor's degree in nursing from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma. In 1992, Walters appointed her to the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Education Office — Enfoletv Momen Opvnaka Lvce — has a goal to preserve the native languages and identify unique cultural characteristics. This cartoon is written in Mvskoke and was drawn by John Skeeter. The cultural scientist is David Skeeter. The cultural researcher is Timmy Thompson. Abe McIntosh is the human development director.

Tribal executive director defends Creeks

continued from page 2

against Creeks over land and mineral rights; inheritances were perpetrated by prominent Oklahoma families.

"The Tulsa World should at least realize that Creeks pay millions and millions of dollars in taxes — contributing to local, state, and federal tax revenues. All over the Creek Nation, our citizens are mailing their tax payments," Wilson said. "Creeks are not seeking state tax exemptions. My ancestors paid my taxes with the loss of

their homes and their lives in Georgia, Alabama, and other parts of the southeastern United States and were forced to walk several thousands of miles to Indian Territory; the relationship with the federal government is regulated by laws and treaties and Oklahoma is not a melting pot, but rather a culturally diverse society.

"It is too much to expect the World to relent its racist position, but objectivity should be observed."

Creek tribe making significant impact on economy

continued from page 1

Wilson said. "There are several hundred people coming each night to go to the bingo halls in Okmulgee, Eufaula, Holdenville — and soon in Muskogee."

Wilson said the tribe is able to create strong tourism dollars for those communities because of the investments the Creeks put into building the bingo halls.

Tourists also flock to Okmulgee to see the tribal leaders and visit the historic places of the Creek Nation. Wilson said international visitors often stop in at the tribal headquarters to visit with the chief and other leaders. The tribe also wants to create Creek-owned businesses.

"We must diversify our income production base," chief Fife said. "In addition we must close the loop in our fragmented economy where on payday when Creeks cash their checks, the money leaves Creek hands and goes directly into the non-Indian community."

"We need successful individually Creek owned enterprises — grocery stores, clothing establishments, restaurants, etc. where Creeks will trade and in turn stimulate our own economy," Fife said.

The Creek Nation also has 24 chartered communities throughout the eight-county reservation that provides various projects for Creeks and non-Creeks in those communities. Of the 24 communities, 19 have facilities to hold their programs, such as day care for all citizens, cattle projects, language classes and smoke shop enterprises.

"The reason we are working diligently with our communities is because it promotes development and leadership locally," Fife said. "The strength of our tribe

is built by the breadth and depth of our capabilities at not only the central level, but the local area as well. As our communities become more capable, we as a tribe become more capable."

In serving all Creek citizens, Fife said 13,000 were served through the Indian Child Welfare program, classroom training, higher education, home energy assistance, and commodity food service. In addition, more than 8,000 receive *The Muscogee Nation News* monthly; the radio program reaches more than 13,500 listeners. The citizenship office enrolled 1,964 Creeks and the election board registered 11,269 voters last year.

The Creek Nation has 826 employees, of which half work at the tribal offices in Okmulgee and the remainder are employed at the hospital, clinics, and bingo halls.

The average salary of the employees is \$16,400 with a mean age of 37 and an average of 4.2 years of service. Nearly 12 percent of its employees have a bachelor's degree or higher, with the majority (70 percent) possessing a high school diploma. Ninety percent of the employees are Creek, eight percent are of other tribes, and one percent are non-Indian.

"A strong Creek Nation cannot neglect the concerns and aspirations of its tribal members," Fife said. "The welfare of the deprived, the health care of the needy, and the education of all citizens is the goal of the Creek Nation — for we are not developing this nation for a select few. Our \$70 million budget means little if we do not use it to expand the opportunities of all Creek people."



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May 1993, 8 Pages

Tribe files federal suit against governor, tax commission

OKMULGEE—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation filed suit against Oklahoma Gov. David Walters and the Oklahoma Tax Commission late last week.

The suit in U.S. Western District Court is a response to six Oklahoma State Highway Patrol troopers and a tax commission official that held a command post near Duck Creek Indian Community, in attempt to seize tobacco products. On April 21, a trooper trespassing onto tribal property was asked to leave by a Lighthorse administration officer.

Duck Creek is a tribally chartered community and operates on trust land owned by the Muscogee Nation.

"The actions of the tax commission are a clear violation of the U.S. Constitution, the Indian Commerce Clause, as well as the inherent sovereign powers of the Muscogee (Creek) government," said principal chief Bill Fife. "Additionally, this action is a violation of a U.S.

Supreme Court ruling in the Oklahoma Tax Commission v. Citizen Band Potawatomi that prohibits state officials from entering tribal trust property."

In its petition, the tribe contends that treaty rights and other federal laws prohibit the state of Oklahoma from any regulation of tribal business.

"We are turning to the courts of the United States government for protection of our constitutional and treaty rights," Fife said. "The state is violating the Indian Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution, attacking tribal jurisdiction," Fife said.

The petition also alleges that "by virtue of the treaties, statutes, and court decisions" that tribal lands and enterprises are exempt from the taxing, criminal, civil jurisdiction. Additionally, the Muscogee constitution approved by the U.S. governments pursuant to a federal act, provides all properties of the tribe, real and personal, are exempt from



photo by Jim Wolfe

Members of the Okmulgee First Indian Baptist Church sing a hymn at the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association District 3 rally held April 24 at the church.

federal and state taxation when not inconsistent with federal law.

Fife contends that the political jurisdiction of the tribe is as it appeared in 1900 and was recognized and approved by the U.S. Department of Interior in 1979.

"By now, it should be clear, that the Muscogee Nation has a right to sell tobacco products to its citizens," Fife

said. "Instead, we are being harassed and our freedom threatened." Fife stressed that the tax commission and other state officials have misplaced priorities.

"This tribe has created over 300 jobs because of our tobacco sales. Many of those jobs are in rural areas the state has

please see LAWSUIT..., page 8

Principal chief working on bureau reorganization task force

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife is playing a major role in the reorganization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Fife was appointed to the task by then-Secretary of Interior Manuel Lujan and was reappointed by new secretary Bruce Babbitt. The task force was organized in 1990 by former U.S. President George Bush to restructure the BIA.

"We want the BIA to be more responsive to the needs of the Indian tribes," Fife said of the task force's main responsibility.

Fife is one of three tribal leaders from the Muskogee Area BIA on the national task force. Three leaders from each of the 12 area offices are on the national task force for a total of 36 tribal leaders and seven federal representatives from the Department of the Interior.

Joining Fife on the task force from the Muskogee area are Bill Follis, Modoc chief and Greg Pyle, Choctaw Nation assistant chief. The three leaders represent

the 14 tribes and three tribal towns within the Muskogee area office.

Under the presidential charter, the task force has already restructured two area offices. The first to re-organize was the Sacramento area office.

The reorganization came after the BIA submitted its own plan — the blue book. The proposal was submitted by the assistant secretary of Indian affairs Sept. 20, 1990 and presented to a meeting of tribal leaders in Albuquerque, N.M. Sept. 28, 1990.

The nearly 1,200 tribal leaders reacted quickly against the BIA's plan and called upon congress and the secretary of interior to allow tribal input into the reorganization.

"The task force told the BIA to re-organize to our needs and not the BIA's," Fife said. "We want to streamline and increase the flexibility of programs."

With the support of the secretary of the interior, the task force has the power to stop any reorganization or restructuring

the BIA might try to implement.

"They can't make any moves until the task force reviews their plans," Fife said.

The task force met for the first time on January 22, 1991 and has now met 17 times. Public hearings were also held to solicit input into the reorganization plan.

Each area office is expected to restructure according to the wishes of the task force and tribal leaders within their jurisdiction.

"The Muskogee area office director, Merritt Youngdeer, has been receptive to the task force," Fife said.

Currently, the Muskogee area office is leaning toward the "technical assistance-modified center" plan, which allows the BIA to keep certain services to the 17 tribes in the area.

Those would include the individual Indian money (IIM) accounts, for individual Indians revenues and services to tribes that have not contracted programs under provisions of P.L. 93-638.

Indian people who have property and

assets in trust would continue to be served by the BIA.

Although most of the 17 tribes within the area have at least one P.L. 93-638 contract, the BIA would serve those tribes and Indian people without 638 contracts.

Several organizational changes recommended by the task force are in the implementation process within the BIA. These are the establishment of an office of economic development, an Indian gaming management staff organization, and modification of the organizational structure of the office of trust funds management.

The trust funds management is also being reviewed by the secretary of interior.

The reorganization task force will continue to meet and offer suggestions to the BIA until December 1994. However, Fife expects the secretary of interior to continue the task force beyond 1994 — until all BIA offices are restructured.

"This is a multi-phased process and we're doing this step-by-step because once it's done, that will be it."

Tribal, area briefs

Human development adds Coser

OKMULGEE — Pete Coser has come home to his people.

Coser has joined the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as the deputy director of human development, announced director Abe McIntosh.

An Okmulgee native, Coser has served as the senior counselor with minority programs and university counseling services at Oklahoma State University since 1985. He will specialize in developing the educational needs of the Creek Nation in his new position.

Coser is on leave from OSU to work for the Creek Nation during its developmental stages of improving the tribal educational programs within the division.

"I believe we all have to make a contribution to the tribe and I want to do what I can," Coser said about assuming his new role.

Coser has spent 21 years in education since graduating from Southeastern Oklahoma State University. He received his doctorate in 1985 from the University of Arkansas. His teaching career began at Dallas Independent School District in 1972. He has also been with school systems at Dickson, Plainview, Tulsa, Rogers State College, and has served as the director of Indian education with Tahlequah Public Schools before earning his doctorate.

"I liked dealing with students on a one-to-one basis and I still like it," he said of his counseling career with Native American students. But, his return to the Creek Nation is a dream he never thought could happen.

"The main reason I took this opportunity was because of chief [Bill] Fife and Jerry Wilson," Coser said. "I think a lot of those two men. I consider them statesmen. They made an impression on me that when they asked me to join the staff I had to consider it."

Coser said he accepted the position with a certain amount of risk involved because of the security he had at OSU.

"You have to take risks," he said. "I think this administration is like the Bill Clinton administration in that it is a new generation that is beginning to contribute to the tribe."

Coser hopes to contribute to preserving tribal sovereignty.

"I've been associated with several other tribes and many of them have been impressed with the stance of the Creek Nation in the sovereignty issue against the state," Coser said. "We can be as strong as we want to be and this administration is approaching this issue very well."

Coser is the son of the late George and Stella Coser, long standing Okmulgee area leaders.

Editor's note: Please see related story on page 5.

Bacone alumni association to meet

MUSKOGEE — The Bacone College Alumni Association will meet on campus May 21 through 23 for its annual reunion and business meeting. Activities include a graduate show banquet at 6:30 p.m. May 21 and conclude with commencement May 23.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. May 22 in Memorial Chapel. The business meeting begins at 12:30 p.m. Baccalaureate service will be at 10 a.m., May 23. For more information contact the alumni office at (918) 683-4581.

Tribe approves resolution to change health system

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — America's health care reform as it effects Indian health care prompted the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to approve a resolution calling for seven steps to change the existing system.

The resolution, which was approved by the National Council on April 27, was presented to President Bill Clinton by Ed Mouss, director of the Creek Nation health services administration, for his consideration in the national health care reform proposal.

Mouss presented White House officials a proposal entitled "Indian Health Care Reform Proposal" as a model of structural change to the existing health care system as it impacts the Indian health delivery system.

The seven steps include: the elimination of barriers caused by employment; the right to choose own doctor; improving accessibility to health care; simplifying the system process for the consumer; enhancing the comprehensive

health delivery system; enhancing the principles of self-government; and decentralizing Indian health as a function of government.

In the elimination of barriers caused by employment, the resolution calls for the "security of knowing that [Indians] will have health coverage even if they seek employment away from their tribal homeland" or have a pre-existing condition.

A choice of a doctor, health plans, and the opportunity to pick a coverage were also noted in the resolution.

In improving the accessibility of health care, the resolution says tribal citizens need a benefits package and that tribal governments have the ability to provide facilities for comprehensive care.

Also called for in the resolution is the need to reduce paperwork for both the doctor and patient and to provide continuity by keeping the best of the current system.

For more information, contact Berryhill after 4 p.m. at (918) 652-7868 or write 310 E. Jefferson, Henryetta, OK 74437.

Tribal briefs

Youth and elders conference slated

OKEMAH — The Mvskokvle Vculvke Momen Mvnetvlike will be held June 9 through 12 at the Mvskoke Round House near Okemah. The conference will be a four-day spiritual gathering of youth and elders.

"The conference is a continuing effort initiated by the late Phillip Deere. The effort was to bring youth and tribal elders together to share their experience and stories," conference coordinator Ben Yahola said.

The committee is seeking speakers and traditional crafts demonstrators, he said.

The conference is being supported by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Enfoletv Momen Opvnaky Lvce. For more information, contact Yahola at (918) 743-6530 or write P.O. Box 701796, Tulsa, OK 74170.

Bow demonstration added to Creek festival

OKMULGEE — A primitive long bow-making demonstration and primitive long bow and modern compound bow shoots will be held June 20 at the 19th Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo.

An exhibit demonstrating the fundamentals of primitive long bow making will be held at 10 a.m., June 20. Bows will also be available for sale. Demonstration and shoot organizer Michael B. Berryhill prefers primitive shoot bows be handmade. Berryhill also prefers primitive shoot participants use handmade arrows, although store bought arrows are acceptable.

The shoots will be held at 1 p.m., June 19. The entry fee is \$5 for each shoot.

Berryhill is also seeking to take photos and record the history of handmade bows possessed by Mvskoke families.

Clarification

The name of an Oklahoma State University—Okmulgee student featured in an article in last month's edition was reported incorrectly. Shannon Madill of Stilwell was a featured student in the boot and saddle making programs article. Madill, and Shannon Brown, were featured as two Indian students succeeding in higher education.

Also, the photo of the Coweta coach and students was switched with the photo of the Haskell Junior College students and National Congress of American Indian president by the printer.

Tribal town center slates meetings

OKEMAH — The Tribal Town Center Organization is holding its monthly meeting at 10 a.m., May 8.

All traditional Mvskoke and Yuchi people are encouraged to attend. The organization's meetings are held at 10 a.m., on the second Saturdays of each month.

The center is located at 118 W. Elm St.

Tribe seeking Indian vendors

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation purchasing agent is seeking to identify all Indian-owned vendors interested in doing business with the tribe. Interested vendors should respond on company letterhead and list federal and state tax identification number. Send to: Attn. Carolyn Torix, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Diabetic support group meets

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representatives diabetic support group will meet at 7 p.m. May 27. The meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center, located one-quarter of a mile east at U.S. Highway 75 and Loop 56.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News, a member of the Native American Journalists Association, is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation administration. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*. Editorials and letters must be signed by the writer and include a traceable address. Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of each month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed free to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. For all others, subscriptions are \$12 annually. Change of address corrections are requested. Additional copies are available for 25 cents. *The Muscogee Nation News* is mailed bulk rate from Okmulgee, Okla.

Awarded for general excellence by the Native American Journalists Association.

Tribal housing authority meeting basic need through service

stories and photo by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Years ago communal living was a way of life for the Muscogee people.

Today there is still the opportunity for a modern day type of communal living within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation through the Creek Nation Housing Authority. The housing authority has developed housing units that provide closer contact among Muscogee people.

Today's communal living style affords Creek people the opportunity to learn from one another in the housing authority complexes built to house Indian families throughout the Creek Nation.

That concept has created a new outlook in the housing authority. There's a new director, Joe Jackson, and a deputy director, Ann Hancock. Both have been in their present positions since March, 1991, though Hancock has worked several years for the authority. A new spirit of commitment and dedication is present. The attitude is evidenced in the 47 employees.

Also, the authority is now seeking new programs and funding aggressively.

Additionally, a new board was seated last year. It consists of: Ken Childers, chair; Senora Hayes; Joe July; Thomas McIntosh; and Morris O'Hearn.

The authority holds open meetings the first Tuesday of each month. The group of professionals have also been busy developing new programs for Creek citizens. The housing authority was successful in obtaining a large grant to be spent over a five-year period to rehabilitate and improve housing units within the service area of the Muscogee Nation.

It has constructed over 1,400 units and is servicing approximately 4,200 individuals. The authority also operates low-rent apartment complexes consisting of over 364 units throughout the Creek Nation.

Jackson said the authority has proposed funding for 500 more homes to be built through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The new homes represent the number of applications on hand for new homes. Although Jackson is doubtful HUD would grant that many projects, he is hopeful at least 150 could be funded.

Jackson emphasized that only HUD, the federal agency, can fund new homes.

The figure is not unrealistic, according to a recent survey conducted by the tribal environmental services administration, with support from the housing authority.

The latest housing survey of the Creek Nation revealed 6,899 families are in need of housing, while 6,231 are living in sub-standard housing, and another 6,030 homes are in need of renovation.

The housing survey was completed in 1993 and is the latest since a 1985 survey.

The survey also revealed over 1,300 individuals are living with extended families or friends.

Jackson said many people think the housing authority has a budget in place to build new homes right away. But the federal fund-

Family reaps housing program benefit

OKMULGEE — Home for David and Atha Mosco used to be on Tiger Mountain without electricity and water.

Today the couple and their two daughters live in a three bedroom house on north Mission Drive, thanks to the Creek Nation Housing Authority.

"I never believed I would ever live in a house like this," she said of the home she's lived in since the summer of 1990. "This is 100 percent better than the house we used to live in on Tiger Mountain."

The Moscos' home is one of approximately 75 homes acquired by the Creek Nation Housing Authority since 1990. Through the acquisition program, the Moscos' house was purchased below the market value of \$38,000 by the authority.

The Moscos are one example of how the housing authority enables a young couple to become homebuyers and homeowners.

"I didn't believe we would be able to buy a home this soon," Mr. Mosco said of home ownership through the Creek Nation Housing Authority.

The Moscos were on the waiting list for over a year and-a-half before they were called.

"My grandpa and my girlfriend both told me they got Indian homes through the housing authority, so I applied," she said. "But, I was surprised when they showed this house to us."

She said her girlfriend and grandpa were both surprised when they saw the new home. "They got [kind of] mad we got this house and they had the smaller houses built for them," Atha said.

In the acquisition homes purchased by the housing authority the applicants must come up with the \$1,500 down payment and

ing agency (HUD) determines how many houses will be built each year. The housing authority must determine which applicants will receive the new houses.

The housing authority also is in competition with housing authorities throughout the nation.

"HUD issues their funding based on management, how well housing payments are made, and the need," Jackson said. "So, it's important for each homeowner to fulfill their responsibility in making their monthly payment."

Jackson said how well Creek Nation home owners make their payments has a direct impact on how much funding will be received for new homes. Jackson said most home owners shouldn't have much trouble meeting their monthly payments because of the low minimum amount required.

The minimum payment the authority allows is \$36 per month, which covers insurance and taxes with the remainder going to administrative costs," Jackson said. The amount of monthly payments is 15 percent of the homeowners' adjusted income. The average monthly payment is \$97. The average length of payoff is 25 years at \$36 per month. Jackson said its minimum monthly payment is the lowest of any housing authority in the state. "The higher amount of payments allows the home owner a quicker time in acquiring a deed to the home, which is around 16 to 17 years," he said.

One problem the authority has is establishing the understanding that home owners are responsible for maintenance of their homes.

"Because we are a federal home ownership program, it does not allow us to do



Jackson, Ashley and Atha Mosco, and Hancock in front of the Mosco home.

then make monthly payments amounting to 15 percent of their adjusted income.

Joe Jackson, housing authority director, said they would like to purchase more acquisition houses in other counties, but homes are not always available for purchase within their price range that meet federal guidelines.

"We have purchased houses in Okmulgee, Bristow, Okemah, Glenpool, Eufaula, Sapulpa, and Muskogee," Jackson said. "[Housing and Urban Development] has set the criteria of what we can buy."

The Moscos are just one family that became homeowners sooner than they expected. They show their appreciation by fulfilling their obligation of making their monthly payments, and improving and maintaining their home.

"This is what makes this job meaningful," Jackson said. "They're appreciative of their home."

riety, and other resources.

The authority's apartment complexes are ideal for the implementation of such programs.

Individuals who wish to apply for a mutual help home should apply at the housing authority. The application is reviewed and verified by a housing counselor and submitted for approval to the authority's administration. After approval the applicant is placed on a waiting list until new housing units are awarded by HUD. Counselors also make referrals to other agencies who provide social and other types of housing assistance.

maintenance on the homes," Jackson said. "All funding is from HUD and no tribal [money is] involved."

Jackson said the authority works closely with the tribal administration in defining the direction it will take.

Two directions the authority hopes to pursue are a youth sports and drug elimination program through a new HUD funding program. If the authority is successful in obtaining the funds, facilities such as tennis courts, basketball courts, and playing fields could be built.

The drug elimination program could provide a facility for counseling programs, secu-

Tribal briefs

Tribe to hold auction

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is making available for sale its surplus property at a public auction beginning at 9 a.m. May 28 at the Governmental Services Administration Building, 1008 E. Eufaula St. at the south end of the tribal capitol complex.

Items may be inspected from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 21 at the GSA and storage buildings. Items will be sold individually. High bidder will be required to pay full balance at the site or the bid will be rejected.

Purchases can be made by cash or cashier's check only. Personal checks will not be accepted. No warranty is given or implied. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

This announcement and disposal of surplus property are made in accordance with

National Council Act 88-37.

Teen language classes offered

OKMULGEE — Beginning Mvskoke language class for kids and teens weekdays from June 28 through July 7 at the Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee campus. Class will be from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Cost for the class is \$25 and Millie Colbert is the instructor. For more information contact the OSU-Okmulgee registrar's office at (918) 756-6211 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Oklahoma City seeks clerk

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association is seeking a part-time social service in-take worker to staff its offices. Successful applicant is self-motivated with organizational skills. Direct resumes and inquiries to: OCMA, P.O. Box 19892, Oklahoma City, OK 73144. Creek preference.

Creeks excel academically

Fixico honored at JOM banquet

BOWLEGS — Crissy Fixico, Creek, was honored at the Bowlegs Public Schools Johnson O'Malley student recognition banquet April 14.

The sixth-grade student was recognized for her academic achievements.

She is the 11-year-old daughter of Denise Seeley of Bowlegs and Chris Fixico of Konawa and the granddaughter of Betty Jesse and the late Ben Jesse of Bowlegs and Charlie and Nancy Fixico of Konawa.

Eufaula senior active

EUFAULA — LeAudra Feeling, a senior at Eufaula High School, has managed a 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) making the honor roll. She is also active in extracurricular activities including band and has been a member of the color guard and drill team for four years. She was also active in the art club and Lady Ironheads softball team.

She is active in her church, Okfuskee Baptist, where she is president for the Muskogee-Seminole-Wichita Association Youth Council. She is the daughter of Jack Feeling Sr. and Stella Timothy Feeling.

She dedicated her high school achievements to the memory of the late Solomon Mitchell Beaver, for all the encouraging words and guidance her had given her.

Okfuskee schools honor seniors

OKEMAH — The Fourth Annual Anna Bland Memorial Scholarship banquet was held April 10 to honor Okfuskee County Indian seniors.

The scholarship winner this year was Ella Hicks of Graham High School. She is the daughter of Louis and Gloria Hicks.

An outstanding senior from each of the schools in the county was also honored by a plaque from their respective high schools and presented by counselors.

Schools involved were: Mason; Okemah; Weleetka; Graham; Paden; and Boley.

The Indian education parent committee and the Indian education staff from Okfuskee County, offered their thanks to Mrs. C. Davis, Ken Taryole, and Sherryl Gonseth for serving on the selection committee for the Anna Bland Memorial Scholarship.

They also thanked the following contributors: Okemah Indian Community and smoke shop; Weleetka Indian Community; Okfuskee Indian Community; principal chief Bill Fife; state education department; all attending parents; Ada Littlecreek; Jarrod Vanderslice; and the students from Oakes and Mason for the entertainment.



Fixico



Feeling

Three area Johnson O'Malley Indian education programs among state's best

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation began administering the Johnson O'Malley program October 1992. The program director is Ken Taryole. The JOM program is within the division of human services. Abe McIntosh is the division director.

The following three programs have been identified as exemplary.

Wagoner program is JOM model

WAGONER — With Oklahoma's only contained classroom, the Johnson-O'Malley program in the Wagoner School District is a model for other programs.

The contained classroom, which provides cultural awareness and enrichment programs to Indian and non-Indian students, has been in existence for four years in the Wagoner School system, said Joyce Bear, director of the JOM program.

"We have a fulltime teacher and over 350 students a year participate," Bear said of the JOM classroom. "We meet everyday with four classes a day."

"It's an elective for an 11-week period where students rotate from physical education and vocal music to the enrichment program, so every student in the 5th and 6th grade have the opportunity for the class."

Gloria Gibson is the teacher in the cultural enrichment classroom. She has been called innovative for her teaching skills and subject matters. She covers everything culturally from basket making to an awareness of the environment.

The Wagoner project hasn't gone unnoticed by the Indian education community either.

Bear and her staff were invited to make a presentation at the Indian Education Expo at the University of Oklahoma in April. And, they were named winners at the region III art show.

Last year two students from the program were state winners to the national history day contest, held in Washington, D.C.

"We have good community involvement in our program from the entire community," Bear said. She noted that the Masonic Lodge in Wagoner helped the JOM programs raise funds to send the two students to the national contest in Washington.

"We have a very active parents' committee and that's what makes this program go," Bear said.

In addition to the contained classroom, a tutoring program is available to the students. Classroom supplies and the salary of the teacher and staff are totally from JOM and Title V funds, which frees the school system from funding the Indian education program.

"We are self-supporting," Bear said. "We don't distract from the curriculum, we add to it."

The Indian education program serves the 400 Native American students from the six schools in Wagoner. The JOM program serves 20 percent of the Indian enrollment while Title V serves 44 percent of the Native American students, which

accounts for the combination of the two programs.

"We would like to think we have the best Indian education program in the state," Bear said.

Sapulpa Public Schools

SAPULPA — For 17 years the Johnson-O'Malley program has been funding tutors for Indian students.

Because of that program the graduation rate for Indian students at Sapulpa has increased, said director Dwight Pickering.

The tutoring program and the cultural awareness enrichment program are made possible through the JOM funds. Five tutors are provided for the 400 students in grades kindergarten to the fifth grade. The instructional tutors are assigned to each of the five elementary schools in Sapulpa.

The tutoring program operates from Monday to Thursday, while the cultural awareness program is provided on Fridays.

"Because we are able to tutor at the early level, the students are better prepared at the middle school and secondary levels," Pickering said. "The students are able to understand the basics through the tutoring program."

Pickering said the Sapulpa School District provides tutors on the middle and high school levels, but his program also oversees that when Indian students are involved.

The cooperation the JOM program has with the teachers in the school system has helped identify students who need the special tutoring. The teachers are aware of the needs of the Indian students and are also aware of the help available through the Indian education department.

"The goals of our tutoring program has been very good," Pickering said. "We're able to graduate more Indian students today than we did 10 years ago. That's our goal."

Ryal Public Schools

RYAL — Small schools are known for providing one-on-one care with students. The Ryal School is an example of just that.

Through the Johnson-O'Malley Program, the 62 Indian students in the Ryal School receive free tutoring and individualized instruction.

"We work with the students on an individual basis and it does a world of good for them," said Louis Hicks, superintendent of the Ryal School. "The more knowledgeable the student is, the more self-worth they have about themselves."

Janet Taylor has been on the JOM program staff since 1973 and is the prime reason for the success of the program, Hicks said.

Besides providing tutoring services, the program also provides additional help in "interest areas" for Indian students.

"If we have a student that has an interest in art, then we sit down with that student and help in whatever way for the student to continue in exploring that opportunity."

Creeks excel academically

On-The-Hill named valedictorian

TWIN HILLS — Brian-On-The-Hill, son of Levi and Debbie On-The-Hill of Natura, has earned the honor of eighth-grade valedictorian at Twin Hills School.

Brian has maintained a 4.0 grade point average (on a scale of 4.0) and has won numerous medals and certificates for his efforts at Twin Hills Grade School. He has been on the academic team since the sixth grade.

He plans to attend Preston High School.

Creek named salutatorian

TWIN HILLS — Brandy Hudgens is the salutatorian of the Twin Hills eighth-grade class.

She has been a three-year member of the school's academic team and a guard for the undefeated girls basketball team.

Last year, she was ranked in the top 10 percent in a creative writing contest. Hudgens is also a member Conchart United Methodist Youth Fellowship.

She is the daughter of Gary and Shirley Hudgens of Natura; granddaughter of Verna and the late Homer Case of Natura and Remona Hudgens of Twin Hills. She is the great-granddaughter of the late Ida Risby.

Creek named art festival princess

TULSA — Cherrah Ridge, 15-year-old Creek-Cherokee descendant, was crowned as the 1993 Tulsa Indian Art Festival Princess.

She is the daughter of Eddie and Debbie Ridge and attends Booker T. Washington High School. She is a member of the National Junior Honor Society, vice president of the Indian Club and a member of the varsity cross country team. She participated in the Red Deer Running Society where she has placed in the Tulsa Run, Sacred Hoop Run in South Dakota, and the Black Hills Run.

Cherrah is a member of the Bird Clan and is the granddaughter of the late Bennie Bender and Ella Colbert Bender. She is a troupe member of the American Indian Theatre Company and has appeared in "Spirit of Oklahoma" commercials promoting Tulsa and the state.

Ridge will serve as the festival's cultural ambassador for 1993 and will attend functions promoting the festival, American Indian Arts Association, National Indian Monument and Institute, and the American Indian Theatre Company.



On-The-Hill



Hudgens



Ridge

Creek education leaders seek education opportunities with Oklahoma State University

by Debra Basore, OSU News Bureau

STILLWATER — Tribal leaders from the Creek Nation met recently with Oklahoma State University officials to discuss future partnerships between OSU and the tribal governments.

"Leaders from both nations are interested in obtaining our expertise in tribal management, health care and distance learning," said Dr. Greg Washington, OSU Vice President of Multicultural Affairs.

Tribal officials were told educational opportunities and community based health services for Oklahoma's Indian population are high priorities for the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.

The college received a \$350,000 grant from the U.S. Public Health Service to develop an on-site general practice residency program for Oklahoma's American Indian populations.

Residents in the program gain valuable experience providing primary care for patients at the Sapulpa Indian Health clinic.

Pete Coser, former coordinator of the OSU Multi-Cultural Development and Assessment Center said OSU has several programs that deal with American Indian issues. They include:

— a \$2 million grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in a pilot project to get American Indian students interested in biomedical sciences;

— a program to reduce the unemployment rate among Indians, funded by a \$225,000 grant from the



Curtis Hicks, employment and training manager, Dr. Greg Washington, OSU, Abe McIntosh, human development director, Otis Brown, employment and training and Dr. Pete Coser

Department of Health and Human Services office of Minority Health;

— a proposal to the National Science Foundation to fund the Oklahoma Native American Mathematics Education Center at OSU; and

— the speech and language pathology department is using a \$300,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to recruit and train multicultural health workers.

Washington said the visit by Creek officials was the first of its kind.

Editors note: Coser is now the deputy director for the tribe's human development division. See related article on page 2.

Academic briefs

Creek chiropractor honored by college

DALLAS — Dr. Roger Canard has been honored by the Texas Chiropractic College as the alumnus of the year.

Canard claims to be the "only fullblood American Indian doctor of chiropractic in Texas." He is the current parliamentarian for the TCC Board of Regents. He set up his Dallas practice in 1970. Canard is being honored for assisting the college with its foundation and enrollment growth. He has also been involved in church, sports, service organizations, and several American Indian cultural organizations.

Douglas wins art show

MASON — Alisa "Sis" Douglas, an eight-grade student at Mason School, won first place in the Five Civilized Tribes Museum Student Art Show on March 7 with her entry in the sculpture-woodcarving class. Her entry was entitled "Angie Debo — Indian Author Historian."

She is the daughter of Harry and Geneva Douglas of Mason.

She was one of three Mason students entered. The two others were John Sands, who entered two pencil drawings entitled "Man With a Hat," and "Dancer." Sara West also entered with a work in colored markers called "A Mourning Squaw."



Douglas

Coon receives student of today award

SHAWNEE — Darell Coon, Creek-Seminole, has received the student of today award for the 1992-93 academic year. The award recognizes students for their leadership, citizenship, and scholarship. The eighth-grade student attends Pleasant Grove School, Shawnee, and maintains a 3.5 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale). His activities include basketball, volleyball, baseball, and track.



Coon

Coon is the son of Gale Smith of Okemah. Grandparents are Joe and Jeanetta Smith of Castle.

Connors student recovering from accident

WARNER — After being struck by a train in 1987, doctors doubted Danny Bledsoe would ever walk again. Since then, he has served as freshman class president at the Connors State College

Bledsoe, the son of Danna Minnick, was struck by a freight train while driving his truck over a crossing in Wainwright in June, 1987. Doctors at St. Francis Hospital diagnosed him with a brain-stem injury, a broken jaw, and broken left hand. He was in a coma for three months and doctors doubted he would ever walk again. He regained consciousness and transferred to Hillcrest Rehabilitation Center staying until February 1988. While there, he received a letter from Hank Williams, Jr. that inspired him. He started walking with a cane in October and enrolled at Connors State College in the spring of 1989.

Creek communities offer plenty of springtime events, entertainment

compiled by Noah Long

Bristow schedules volleyball tournament

— Bristow Indian Community is holding a coed volleyball tournament May 15 and 16. The first 14 teams to enter will be accepted. The entry fee is \$35 and must be submitted by 5 p.m., May 12.

First and second place winners will be awarded t-shirts. The third place winners will receive a team trophy.

For more information, contact Judy Watson at (918) 367-5101 or Tom Watson at (918) 367-5780.

Chief speaks to Checotah

— Principal Chief Bill Fife and four McIntosh District representatives to the National Council were featured guests Checotah Indian Community's regular April meeting. Fife spoke about tribal affairs, self-governance, economic development, and the Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo to be held in June.

— John Tiger reported on diabetes research currently underway within the Creek

Nation.

— In other community news, Kendra Round said 35 youth participated in the community Easter egg hunt.

— The community voted to donate \$300 to the Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Pageant Committee in order to help defray pageant expenses.

— A committee composed of Nathan Harper, Naggie Wilbanks, Samaria Jones, and Round are making plans for a community picnic this summer.

— A basketweaving class was held on April 26 and 27 with Sue Hughart as the instructor. Attending the session were seven adults and two youths.

Holdenville to hold social for seniors

— Holdenville Indian Community will host an ice cream social for graduating Creek seniors of Holdenville High School at 7 p.m., May 11.

The center is located at 426 E. Poplar.

Kellyville youth receives scholarship

— Kellyville Indian Community member Jimmy Lee Green was recently awarded a football scholarship to Haskell Indian Junior College in Lawrence, Kan.

Green, a senior at Kellyville High School, has received all-state recognition and also will play in the Shriners Bowl game June 5 in Bixby. He also participates in weight lifting and placed in a state weight lifting competition held at Chickasha.

Green is the son of Jimmy Joe and Linda Green and is the grandson of Jimmy Green, Bixby..

— Sherry Coarrett won the door prize for the month of April. Creek District National Council representatives Earl Wheeler and Roy Bear attended the April regular meeting.

Eufaula sets achievement awards

— The Eufaula Indian Community Achievement awards will be held 7 p.m. May 17 at the community center. All Indian students in the Eufaula and Stidham school districts are invited to attend this

awards night. Awards will be made to students in a variety of categories.

There will also be special awards for graduating freshmen and senior classes.

"We feel that it is very important to recognize these students because of their hardwork and goals they have accomplished and earned," said Jerry Frances, community activity coordinator.

Frances said the community is expecting 200 students to attend. The center is located at 806 W. Forrest Ave.

— EIC's Little Miss Ada Baldridge represented the community in the city's loyalty day parade held May 1. She also appeared in a television report from Muskogee's azalea festival.

— Eufaula Head Start students won the Creek Nation Head Start Little Olympics.

— EIC will provide lawn cutting services to the community elders this summer.

— EIC is sent a delegation of its elders to the statewide aging conference May 4 and 5.

Holdenville working to overcome past internal problems

by Stephanie Berryhill

HOLDENVILLE — The aroma of tafvmpece, cvtahakv, and tvklike tokse wafted through the small room, up the hall, and into the parlor of Creek Nation's most recently opened bingo hall.

Tribal citizens, Council members, and even Principal Chief Bill Fife probably would not have disputed they had just eaten food prepared by some of the finest cooks in the Muscogee Nation.

Through the community's hardships, it is these dedicated women — the Holdenville Indian Community Social Committee — that are the fiber of the nation's southernmost community.

"They are the backbone of the community and probably the brains too. They don't have to be asked [to make time-consuming plans and meal preparations] they just come and do it. That's the kind of people we have," secretary Cora Beaver said.

Although a social committee, it helps the community meet other objectives.

With its planning of activities to observe social events and major holidays, the committee has attracted community interest, thus helping increase the membership roster to 203. In addition to social activity planning, the committee opened a thriftshop in February. The thriftshop has enabled them to generate funding for their activities, thus lessening community expenditures.

Among other community committees are: economic development; membership; and elders' nutrition.

The elders' nutrition committee is one of its most recently formed committees.

Established in January, its objective is to obtain a tribal elderly nutrition program for community elders. The committee is nearing completion of a survey to be dispersed during commodity distribution days and on home visits to elders. The community board of directors anticipate the survey findings will demonstrate the elders' need for a nutrition program. Funding for the nutrition program is among Holdenville's proposal requests from the Council's community development block grant.

The tribes sixth bingo hall — Creek Nation Holdenville Bingo — opened within the community center in February. Because of internal community disputes, the hall is currently under the control of the tribal gaming operations authority board. Secretary Cora Beaver estimates it will be six months to a year before the board of directors will overtake the operation of the bingo hall.

The current board was elected to office in July 1992 and has been the plaintiffs in an on-going dispute between the former board since November 1991, Beaver said. Because the two factions are still in litigation, the board members are prohibited from discussing case details, she said. But they won't deny the community has had its setbacks and problems.

The community's reputation has made the board high profile community leaders. Beaver attributes their questionable reputations to the previous actions of past and present community members.

"What surprises a lot of people is when [they meet us and] we're not what they envisioned us to be," Beaver laughed.

Although litigation is still pending, the board continues to make positive steps to overcome the lingering effects of its once-abused constitution and funds.

"We want a good image," said parliamentarian Clarence Johnson. "I think they know we mean business."

Beaver said the community had an account balance near zero at the time of the board's July installation. Up until fiscal year 1993 — October — its only source of revenue was the smokeshop, she said. Johnson said the current board ran on a platform of restoring community government and finances to order.

"This board ran on the platform of restructuring [community government] and accountability [of funds] to the community."

The community adopted new by-laws in July 1992 and is strictly abiding by generally accepted accounting principles, Johnson said.

Beaver said the board is trying to educate community members through rigidly abiding by the constitution.

Cooperation and common board and



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Long-standing community member Nancy Beaver plays bingo as Pauline Clark checks her card. A sewing circle made up of Holdenville area Creek women initiated the origination of the community when they began meeting in the early 1980s. Beaver, Betty McKane, Nupsey Dunson, Lizzie Bruner, and Rechinta Youmans met in a building that is now Yeager Head Start.

community objectives have made these tasks less cumbersome.

"It's easy working with the board because our goals are pretty much the same. We're heading in the right direction due to many community members that have supported the board," Beaver said.

Though progress seems slow, Johnson believes the board will have been successful if the community has a definite sense of direction by July 1994.

"It doesn't seem like we've gone very far, but if we have some kind of direction by the time our two years is up ..."

Editor's note: Other community officers are Mitchell Musgrove, chair, and Rechinta Youmans, vice-chair. The treasurer's position is vacant.

Creek churches honor their Mvskoke mothers

Newtown United Methodist

OKMULGEE — Newtown United Methodist Church is hosting the Northeast District Children's Task Force teachers' training workshop on May 8. The workshop will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Newtown United Methodist Church.

On May 9 the church will honor its mothers. Oldest and youngest mothers and the mother with the most children in church will be recognized.

The church's UMW is holding its monthly meeting at 2 p.m., May 16. JoAnn Chupco is in charge of the meeting.

To get to the church, turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56 in Okmulgee. Drive west to the stop sign and south to the intersection of Okmulgee and Eufaula streets. Follow Eufaula Street three miles until the road curves north. The church is located one mile from the bend.

Salt Creek United Methodist

WETUMKA — Salt Creek United Methodist Church will observe Mother's Day during its May 9 worship service.

Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and the worship service will be held at 11 a.m.

The church is located eight miles north on state highway 48 and two miles east of Holdenville or seven miles west on state highway 9 and two miles south of Wetumka.

Mutteloke United Methodist

BRISTOW — Mutteloke United Methodist Church will honor its mothers during its May 9 worship service. Sunday school will begin at 10 a.m. and the worship service begins at 11 a.m. The church is located at Tejon and Poplar streets.

Tulsa United Indian Methodist

TULSA — On May 9 Tulsa United Indian Methodist Church will honor mothers attending its worship service.

During the 11 a.m. worship service awards will be given to: the youngest mother; oldest mother; and mother with the most children.

Rev. Taylor Harjo reported the church has a new lay speaker. Ann Saunkeah was certified in April after attending lay speakers' school at the Northeast District center in Preston. Saunkeah is also church treasurer. As Pastor Harjo will be attending the Northeast District conference May 21, 22, and 23, church lay speaker Dewey Alberty will be the guest speaker during the May 23 service.

During Native American awareness Sunday the church collected a special offering that has been donated to Memorial Drive United Methodist Church. The church's sanctuary was destroyed during the late April tornado that struck Tulsa.

Northeast District Methodist youth rally

PRESTON — A Northeast District youth rally will be held at the district center at 9:30 a.m., May 15.

The Northeast District conference will be held at the district center May 21, 22, and 23.

The conference will begin at 7 p.m., May 21 with a service. A 9 a.m. business meeting will begin the May 22 conference activities. A worship service will begin at 11 a.m., May 23.

The district center is located one mile east of Preston

and U.S. Highway 75.

Seminole Hitchitee United Methodist

LITTLE — Seminole Hitchitee United Methodist Church is holding a Mvskoke-Seminole and English hymn singing at 2 p.m., May 16.

All churches, groups, and individuals are invited to attend the singing, Rev. Jerry Byrd said. "Come let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord," he said.

The church is located five miles east of Little on 99A and one-half of a mile north. For more information, call Pastor Byrd at (405) 382-5346.

Little Cussetah Baptist Church

SAPULPA — Little Cussetah Baptist Church is holding a spiritual awakening revival May 19 through 23. The service will begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly. The

evangelist is Allen Colbert. The musicians are Millie Colbert and Byer Beaver. The church pastor is Rev. W.W. Knight.

Transportation and a children's nursery will be provided. For more information, call 224-2955.

The church is located at 7678 E. 96th.

Broken Arrow Indian United Methodist

BROKEN ARROW - Broken Arrow United Methodist has scheduled an old time Creek singing on May 28.

All songs will be sung in the Mvskoke language. The singing will be held from 8 p.m. to midnight. Dinner will be served following the singing.

The church's UMW unit is holding a taco dinner from noon to 4 p.m., May 8. The dinner will cost \$4 per plate.

please see CHURCHES..., page 8

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

JOE COOK :

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services were held for Joe Cook, 79, of Holdenville, in the Hudson Funeral Home Chapel, with burial in the Harjo family cemetery.

Cook was born in Hughes County, north of Holdenville on Feb. 27, 1914 and died in the Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah April 6.

Cook was reared north of Holdenville and had lived in the area all of his life. He attended Friendship School and Euchee Mission Boarding School. He was a veteran of World War II where he served in the Army in the south Pacific. He was a member of the Tuckabatchee Ceremonial Ground and the American Legion.

He was married to Helen Harjo in March of 1950. He was preceded in death by: his parents, Daniel and Molly Cook; and one sister, Josphine Factor.

Survivors are: his widow, Helen Harjo Cook of the home; three sons, Ernest and Alan Cook, both of Holdenville, and Donald of Wewoka; five daughters, Carolyn Clay of Holdenville, Evelyn Cook of Norman, Brenda Teehee, Jacqueline and Lisa Cook, all of Tahlequah; nine grandchildren; one niece; two nephews; and many other relatives; and friends.

GRACE TYNDALL

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services were held for Grace Tyndall at Muskogee Grace Episcopal Church with burial at Fort Gibson National Cemetery April 20.

A former Bureau of Indian Affairs employee, Tyndall died April 17 in the Tahlequah City Hospital.

She was a Haskell High School and Park College, Parkville, Mo., graduate. She married William F. Tyndall in 1930 and made their home in Red Bud, S.D.

The Tyndalls worked for the BIA for 30 years and lived in several states before making Cherokee, N.C. their home. They retired in 1960 and moved to Muskogee.

Her husband died in August, 1971. She is survived by: four sons, William F. Tyndall Jr. of Muskogee, Don L. Tyndall Sr. of Oklahoma City, John B. Tyndall Sr. of Winston-Salem, N.C., and Phillip Tyndall of Shawnee, Kan.; two daughters, Ellen S. Tanner of Muskogee, and Sara M. Housel of Kansas City, Mo.; two sisters, Alice Logan of Muskogee, and Winnie Hornett of Tahlequah;

nine grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Edwin Moore, Marcy Moore, Bud Moore, Glenn Moore, Jack Nixon and Lonnie Stanifer.

JOYCE LEFTHAND

OKMULGEE — Funeral services were held for Joyce Ann Evelyn Gooden Lefthand, 40, March 30.

She died, March 26, at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

She was born on Jan. 7, 1953 at Talihina, to Willie and Josephine McIntosh Gooden. She married Bill Lefthand in 1985 at Schulter.

She was a housewife and a member of Four Square Gospel Church in Okmulgee.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Josephine in 1968.

Survivors include: her husband, Bill of the home; father and step-mother, Willie and Mary Gooden of Okmulgee; one brother, Bennie Gooden of Dewar; three step-brothers, George Taylor of Houston, Robert Taylor of Corpus Christi, Texas, and J.D. Colbert of Tulsa; and one step-sister, Anngelia Kihega of Norman.

MOSE JULY

ONAPA — Funeral services were held for Mose July, 55, of Catoosa, April 21 at the Deep Fork Hillabee Baptist Church with Rev. Jimmy Alexander of Glenpool officiated.

July died April 18 at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa. Burial was in the Coody Creek Cemetery.

Wake services were held at the Merritt Funeral Service Chapel in Eufaula.

July was born in Checotah on Nov. 17, 1937 to Hannah Smith July and the late Wiley July. He and Betty Ann Deere were united in marriage in 1956.

He is survived by: his wife, Betty of the home; five daughters, Cynthia Coyle of Sperry, Marilyn July of Catoosa, Kathy July of Claremore, Annette Hill and Patti July, both of Tulsa; two sons, Randy July of Tulsa, and George July of Catoosa; his mother, of Checotah; four brothers; two sisters; 15 grandchildren; several nieces; and nephews.

Pallbearers were: Earl Morris; Charles Johnson; Richard Morgan; Isaiah Wesley; Mannford Wade; Troy Wade; Jeff Jones; and Kenneth Rowell.

Religion

continued from page 7

The church is located at 20824 W. 141st St.

Wetumka Indian Baptist

WETUMKA — Wetumka Indian Baptist Church is hosting a gospel singing May 30 beginning at 7 p.m. Berryhill's Quartet will serve as master of ceremonies. The church is located one mile south of Wetumka on U.S. Highway 75 and one-half mile east.

Members of the Angie Smith United Methodist Church in Oklahoma City observed Native American Awareness Sunday on April 25 with an exhibition of Indian dances. Shown demonstrating a stompdance are Felix Gouge, his daughter, Teresa, and sons, Wilson and Eco. Also participating were Alicia and Hokte Gouge.
photo by Noah Long



Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church

OKEMAH — Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church is hosting a gospel singing June 5 beginning at 7 p.m. with Berryhill's Quartet acting as master of ceremonies. West from Okmulgee on state highway 56. At the Last Chance Baptist Church, go east six miles over the low water creek crossing. The church is located on the left.

Okmulgee Indian Baptist

OKMULGEE — Okmulgee Indian Baptist is hosting a soul-winning revival May 24 through 28 with services beginning at 7:30 nightly.

The evangelist is Rev. Felix Tiger of High Springs Baptist Church. Music director for the revival is Wayne Harjo of Greenleaf Baptist Church.

To get to the church, turn west at U.S.

Highway 75 and loop 56 in Okmulgee. Drive west to the stop sign and south to the intersection of Okmulge and Eufaula streets. Follow Eufaula street two miles. The church is on the south.

Big Cypress Baptist Church

BIG CYPRESS, Fla. — Rev. Fred Lindsey and his wife, Susie, were recently honored by the Big Cypress First Baptist Church for their dedication work among the Florida Seminoles.

Lindsey has completed 10 years of service on the Florida reservation. The Lindsey's plan to return to Oklahoma this summer where he will continue in his ministry within the Creek Nation.

Lindsey is the son of the late Rev. Eddie Lindsey, long standing pastor of Little Quarsarty Baptist Church near Cromwell.

highway 39, one mile, then one and one-third miles south.

Indian Fellowship Baptist

OAKHURST — Indian Fellowship Baptist Church at Oakhurst recently received funds from the Creek National Council for a baptistry.

"Through the efforts of Chief Fife, Mose Cahwee (Creek District councilman), and the Creek National Council, our prayers have been answered for a baptistry for our church," said the Rev. William Alexander. "God answered our prayers through these people granting us the funds needed for this project."

The church was received \$2,000 for the project.



Several tribal officials were present at the Duck Creek Indian Community Center grand opening. Pictured from left to right back row, Okmulgee District Rep. George Tiger, Creek District Rep. Mose Cahwee, National Council Speaker Clarence Cloud, Okmulgee District Rep. Thomas Berryhill, and Creek District Rep. Earl Wheeler. Front row, Okmulgee District Rep. Charlie Litsey, Second Chief Shelly Crow, Principal Chief Bill Fife, and Tulsa District Rep. Okema Randall.

Creek named coach of the year

COWETA — Creek citizen Mike Phillips has been named the Tulsa metro coach of the year for turning around the Coweta High School girls basketball program.

Phillips, the son of legendary coach Ray Phillips, guided the Lady Tigers from a 1-21 season to a 17-8 campaign that included a state tournament berth his year. It was the first state tournament for a Coweta girls basketball team in 26 years. And, the prospects for a return trip to the 5-on-5 playoffs appear good with four returning starters.

"We've had better seasons, but overall this year was our best in that we won the regional and area championships and went to state," Phillips said.

He cited the off-season program and an experienced group of juniors and sophomores who matured to lead the Lady Tigers. Phillips is completing his 11th season at the Coweta helm.

His father, Ray, coached boys and girls basketball, football and baseball.

Notice

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is submitting a proposal to the Administration for Native Americans to establish a tribal manufacturing plant. Public comment regarding the Muscogee (Creek) Nation proposal is invited and welcomed. Address all correspondence to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Affairs, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. For more information, contact the division of tribal affairs at (918) 756-8700.

Cold Spring Baptist Church

KONAWA — Cold Spring Baptist Church will hold their annual gospel singing at 7 p.m. June 5.

Al Brown and the Ada Harmonettes will be the masters of ceremonies. All quartets, duets, soloists and listeners are invited.

On June 6 the service will start at 10 a.m. with lunch and supper to be served.

The church is located three miles east of Konawa on state highway 39 and one and one-third mile south, or 13 miles south of Seminole on state highway 99, west to

well over one-half million dollars in payroll taxes alone. We have more than 36,000 tribal citizens that pay personal income and sales taxes."

Fife said he is appalled at the idea that the state would like to take tobacco taxes and place the revenue in the general fund. Fife said revenues from tobacco sales are being returned to the tribe to operate a variety of programs and services for citizens and non-citizens alike.

Fife said he is encouraging all citizens to contact their state legislators and urge repeal of enrolled Senate Bill 759.

"We want people to realize that tribes have the right and the power to regulate its own business and that we have the power to tax," Fife said. "We also want people to be aware of discriminating legislation that

is targeted to a special population.

"This fight is not just the Creeks against the tax commission," Fife said. "It is a fight for freedom of choice for the consumer and the fight against legislative intrusion into tribal affairs. The law even attempts to tax our tribal citizens. Giving up 75 percent of tax revenues is like giving up 75 percent of our tribal sovereignty."

Notice

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Administration is submitting a home rehabilitation proposal to the Farmers Home Administration for funding consideration. Public comment is invited. Please address comments to: ESA, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Tribe ups the stakes with lawsuit against tax commission

continued from page 1

long forgotten," Fife said. "The state is not seeing the bigger picture." Fife said the tribe's sovereignty produced positive results for all citizens — not just Indians.

"We used some of our tax revenues to assist a local community to develop fire protection. To us, it was not just a matter of protecting the lives of our citizens, it was a concern for all citizens," Fife said. "Our employees, including those in烟shops, are paying personal state income tax. It seems very shortsighted for the tax commission to concentrate its resources in a fight they cannot win, against Indian tribes."

The chief said it is "ridiculous" that some Indians do not pay taxes.

"Last fiscal year, our employees paid



The Muscogee Nation News

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June 1993, 16 Pages

Tribal joint venture awarded technology transfer contract

Creeks one of three competing for manufacturing contract

OKMULGEE — A joint venture between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Mississippi Band of Choctaws has been awarded a contract related to the super collider project.

Choctaw Creek Technologies (CCT) — a collaboration of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing and the Choctaw Manufacturing Enterprises — was awarded the high energy booster quadrupole magnet technology transfer contract for the superconducting super collider project in Ellis County, Texas.

Chief Bill Fife stated "We are honored to be a part of such a giant project that will benefit all mankind. The super collider will help to uncover new knowledge of high energy. The new knowledge gained from super collider will impact the future of technology and society that will take us into the 21st century."

"We are excited about the potential this project has for the Mississippi

Choctaws and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation," Fife said.

Choctaw Creek Technologies is one of three firms to be awarded the technology transfer contracts. The transfer contract calls for CCT to maintain a presence at the super collider site for 13 months gathering the information necessary for production of the magnets used for conducting.

The joint venture, one of the first of its kind between separate tribes, began late last year with discussions between Fife and Choctaw Chief Phillip Martin. Those talks came to fruition in February when the tribes inked a pact to combine resources.

The historic agreement was signed in the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs hearing room in Washington D.C., on Feb. 16.

Sam Schisler, CCT's Chief Executive

please see CONTRACT..., page 12

Summer youth employment program provides training and jobs

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Oklahoma's Muscogee (Creek) Nation employment and training department could be rated as one of the best programs in the nation utilizing the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

Through JTPA, the Creek Nation counsels and provides financial assistance to adults seeking vocational or specialized skills to gain employment.

In addition, the Creek Nation JTPA also provides summer jobs to more than 200 youths in providing valuable work experience.

This year the youths are scheduled to participate in one of two identical summer programs.

The first session was May 31 to June 4 and the second, June 7-11.

Goals for the summer session are to build self-esteem among Creek youth, to increase awareness of and requirements for career opportunities, and to evaluate personal career interests.

The OSU/Okmulgee campus is the site of the programs in the joint effort by the Tribe and the school.

"OSU/Okmulgee's newly-opened assessment center was a major factor in us choosing the college to host these summer programs," said Abe McIntosh, director of Human Resources Development for the Creek Nation.

"Each student will participate in career interest and aptitude testing in the computerized test center," McIntosh said. "Test results will enable us to better place the student in a summer job that meets his or her interests and aptitude. The information also will become a valuable resource for career advisement."

Agenda items range from career interest profiling to a True Colors Self-analysis, job preparation, enhancing self-esteem, alcoholism and family, chemical dependency, date rape and sexual abuse, and AIDS education.

In addition to helping tribal youths, the employment and training department also concentrates on helping adults in their quest for usable employment.

"This department is along the same lines as the education department, but we provide short time opportunities so our people can gain a usable skill for employment," said JTPA director Curtis Hicks.

JTPA provides an allowance for those in vocational or recognized job training programs during their time in the program. The Creek Nation JTPA helps more than 200 students each year.

Hicks said because the Creek Nation operates the JTPA program, Indian people are better served.

"There is a big difference in recognizing the needs of the Indian people," Hicks said in citing the advantage of an Indian operated program. "The culture and religion of Indian people play a big role in knowing the needs and concerns

of our people."

Hicks's staff also plays a major role in providing a relaxing atmosphere when Indian people enter the JTPA office.

"We have recognizable Indians working here," Hicks said. "Because of that we understand their needs and we're able to communicate more effectively with Indian people."

The Creek Nation JTPA program has met the federal requirements each year. The Creek Nation program was monitored in December by the Division of Indian and Native American Programs. The program is monitored every two years and the Creek program received passing marks each time by staying within the guidelines.

"We're proud of that accomplishment," Hicks said of the monitoring process.

please see JOBS..., page 12



The 1993 Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marva Jackson poses for photographers after being crowned at the June 5 pageant. The pageant was an early part of the 19th Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo. For additional festival information, see the inside pages.

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Second Chief reports from health care reform task force

by Libby Quaid, The Daily Oklahoman

OKMULGEE — Oklahoma needs desperately more health care providers in rural areas says Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Shelly Crow.

Crow was one of 36 consultants to first lady Hillary Clinton's health care reform task force.

Crow, also a nursing instructor at the University of Tulsa, said expanded rural health care and decentralized health care for American Indians were two of her primary concerns in her work for the task force.

While President Bill Clinton has extended his deadline for submitting a health care proposal to Congress repeatedly, Mrs. Clinton's task force charter expired.

Crow said she thinks it was successful, but she was surprised when she was notified May 28 of its expiration.

"I think the way it was designed, with grass roots people, congressional people, and health care providers, — it brought things to the forefront," she said. "[The U.S.] has an \$888 billion health care system and we do not serve all of the people."

Crow estimates 30 million people in the United States do not receive health care.

"It's not perfect," Crow said of the task force work. "But no one else has been taking on this issue."

Crow was invited to be a consultant when she met the first lady at the inauguration celebrations. "Basically, I wanted to work on women's and children's health issues.

Crow also brought her concerns about American Indians and rural Oklahomans to the task force's attention. Crow said in Oklahoma, rural populations suffer from a lack of health care providers.

"We have a problem of recruiting physicians in underpopulated areas," Crow said, arguing that it could be remedied by allowing nurse practitioners to practice in the state, which would require the support of the American Medical Association.

The task force examined the infrastructure of Indian Health Services, which Crow said needs to be decentralized. The Creek Nation developed a health care model, not yet approved, designed to give the tribe autonomy over its own health care and allow direct access to the White House.

"We need to cut out the red tape for the tribes that run their systems themselves," she said. "The tribes should be more in control. That's what the president wants. We know better than Indian Health Services."

She cited some of the same problems in rural areas, stressing that it's important "to let rural people in Oklahoma decide" what kind of health care they need.

"We've been designing programs and then telling people what their needs are. We need to find out what their needs are and then design programs."

The task force met 23 times in late April and May, including some meetings with the president. It also held a public hearing. The dozen-member group was aided by 511 health experts mostly from federal agencies and by 36 health care consultants. Its charter expired May 30.

Clinton's original May 3 deadline was first extended to late May and then to mid or late June. The plan is on hold until Congress acts on the deficit-reduction plan.

Letters to the Editor

July family sends thanks

Editor:

The family of Mose July wishes to give a special thank you to our many friends for the food, flowers and kind words. A special thanks to the Checotah Indian Center, the Creek Nation and Rev. Jimmy Alexander.

Betty July and family, Checotah

Kellyville Indian Community has new address

Editor:

The Kellyville Indian Community has a new address. Please forward any correspondence that is pertinent to the Kellyville Indian Community to: P.O. Box 1058, Kellyville, OK. 74039.

Kellyville Indian Community

Environmentalist praises birds

Editor:

Since the beginning of time birds have played an important role to Mother Earth as the free spirits of the sky. They bring to us signs that forecast the future.

The winds have a song that is heard by the most sensitive ear. It tells us things and brings our seasons to us.

Before the airplane the true masters of the sky are the birds. Birds play an important role in our food chain, not to mention the Native American stories, songs and spiritual roles. A lot can be applied and learned today by watching these masters of the sky.

Birds play an important role as a key indicator species in areas all over the United States a balance between earth, wind and water must be present for certain species to survive. Those who respect this balance must consider what is needed to aiding the survival of these beautiful sky creatures.

Water, food, shelter and resting areas are the basic requirements for bird survival. Birds use water from a variety of sources for drinking and bathing. These sources may be as small as a puddle or as large as a lake. The types of food varies according to season, migration, raising

Former Creek Princess discusses Indians in the legal profession

By Rhonda Harjo, National Vice President, Native American Law Students Association

Our tribe is one of the most progressive and successful tribes in the nation. Evidencing that success is the growing number of professionals and future professionals among the tribal members.

On April 1-2, the national Native American Law Students Association held its first meeting in conjunction with the annual federal Indian bar conference. According to the 1992 American Indian Graduate Center statistics, at least nine Creek students were financially assisted in law schools across the country. This number does not include Creek students not assisted by the AIGC.

Nevertheless, these numbers do reflect a positive trend among our people. More Creek people are interested in the law and helping our people through legal means.

These numbers also reflect the need for financial and emotional support. I would encourage the tribal leaders and members to send a message of support to these law students by providing financial aid for graduate students within the educational budget. You can also send a letter of support, which can be addressed below. If

young and molting. Some birds like berries other prefer seed. Birds need shelter to escape predators and to survive harsh weather.

Think of how sad it would be to be without the beautiful sights and sounds of birds in the morning and to bring forth the spring. We can do so much by simply increasing the awareness of mans' relationship to the spirits of the sky. As elders we can pass legends and teaching to the little ones. Education and environmental respect could be given to the little ones as early as Headstart. We ourselves can help by taking time out from our busy lives to go outside and hear what is on the wind and respect what is in the sky.

Donna Anderson, Indian Health Service, Okmulgee

Reader questions tribal direction

Editor:

Este cvte Mvskoke estit vr'rv? Hvnyomat este mvnet'e emopunvka kerrakesikot omeko haks?

Estit em mome haks?, vne, esempunvyakan, em, mopupunka tot, coyetv tot, ok honayetv omakat, mvt kosapkos tos ce.

Hopuetakoce em punvyakayis vnkerrakisekot ah'pelhoyosit cv'hecavvns, tvn vh'kerrec'kvtn'hakvns, mome tos kont. Wacenv punvkat tlvkosit ha'kepen, mvt ok'hatvlaken, este cvte Mvskoke punvkat vhs'letv min oh'kueks ce.

Tim Harley, Henryetta

Editor's note: The following is an English translation

Who around here is Mvskoke?

Now a days, the young people don't know the Mvskoke language. Is it because they are incapable?

Who's fault is this language loss? I read and write Mvskoke, and speak with the children, but the language is declining.

While I was speaking Mvskoke with little children who didn't understand, but did smile and look at me, a thought occurred to me: as the Mvskoke people use English more and more, we cause Mvskoke to further disappear

there are other Creek law students not listed, please send their names in to the Muscogee Nation News.

Law school is demanding enough. But, when a law student does not receive any support from his or her tribe, the task of completing law school becomes even more difficult.

Please encourage these students so they may one day contribute to the tribe. Hometowns of the students are in parenthesis:

Rhonda D. Harjo (Oklahoma City), 3815 N. Geraline - 4, Oklahoma City, OK. 73112; Susan Howard (Oklahoma City), 2020 N.W. 21st, Oklahoma City, OK. 73106, both of the OCU School of Law.

Carla Haddox (Okemah), OU School of Law, 300 Timberdell, Norman, OK. 73072; Brett Williams (Oktaha) 2164 Westbrookes - C, Norman, OK. 73069; Greg Dixon (Checotah), 905 Feland Drive, Purcell, OK. 73080, all of the Oklahoma University School of Law.

Ken Factor (Tulsa), 2214 E. 66th Place - 1809, Tulsa, OK. 74136, Tulsa University School of Law and Kristin Ellsworth (Wewoka), 3989-A S.W. South Shore, Lake Oswego, OR. 97035, Lewis & Clark School of Law.

Congress considers reforming individual Indian money accounts

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Oklahoma congressman Mike Synar and U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye have introduced legislation calling for the reform of individual Indian Money (IMM) accounts currently handled by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

The reform bill is entitled "The Native American Trust Fund Accounting and Management Reform Act of 1993," House Bill 1846.

Synar's bill would have five major effects if passed by congress and the senate.

The bill would require the Secretary of the Interior to invest and pay interest on IIM funds held in trust; to authorize new and innovative ways to manage trust funds; clarify the trust responsibility of the U.S. with respect to Indians; establish a program for the training and recruitment of Indians in the management of their trust funds; and require a periodic accounting to trust funds holders.

Within the Muscogee Nation more than 1,500 accounts would be affected in addition to the Tribal trust funds now administered by the BIA, said Mike Factor, Muscogee Nation controller.

The new legislation would make it possible for tribes to direct funds to financial institutions of their choice. It would also "require" the government to invest and pay interest on the IMM accounts.

Another part of the reform bill calls for the investment of accounts in financial institutions on or near reservations, which will promote the economic development in Indian communities.

The reform bill would also provide an accounting of the funds to account holders.

"Its enactment is necessary to reform longstanding mismanagement of the Indian trust funds and to give 300,000 Native Americans, for whom the Bureau of Indian Affairs holds money in trust, a greater say in the management of their affairs," Synar said.

The bill would affect 330 tribes with some tribes holding multiple accounts. Synar said approximately 2,965 separate accounts make up the Tribal Trust Fund.

"The tribes do not participate equally in the Fund," Synar said. "In fact, according to the BIA's Office of Trust Fund Management, 77 percent of the Fund assets are held by eight percent of the tribes."

Sadly, the BIA has failed to fulfill its fiduciary duties to the beneficiaries of the Indian Trust Fund," Synar said when he introduced the bill in the U.S. House of Representatives.

"Under the management of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Trust Fund is equivalent to a bank that doesn't know how much money it has," he said.

"The real losers in the mismanagement of the Indian Trust Fund are the Tribes and the individual Indian account holders," the Congressman said. "These account holders have been victimized by the federal government. Yet they have no recourse except to the very agency that is responsible for their predicament."

Synar said the reform would correct those problems. He said the legislation was prepared with the advice and counsel of many Native Americans and tribal officials.

For further information, contact Factor at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

Tribal council authorizes tribal self-governance beginning in fiscal year 1994

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Items ranging from Head Start to self-governance were covered by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council during its regular monthly session on May 22.

The bill called for the re-organization of the Head Start program. But, it was tabled by the council for a 60-day period. The move to hold off any re-organization was made by Okmulgee County representative Harvey Gilroy. His motion passed by a 15-11 margin.

The additional time will allow the tribal administration and the Head Start directors to assess the current program and present a report to the council during the 60-day period.

In another important decision by the council a move toward total self-governance was made when they authorized the Principal Chief to sign the self-governance compact and the annual funding agreement with the United States government.

The bill allows the Creek Nation to provide certain services now provided by the BIA Area Office. When negotiations are agreed upon, Chief Bill Fife will sign the compact turning over governmental funds to the Creek Nation for certain programs, instead of the funds going to the BIA.

Chief Fife said the bill would go into effect with the start of the 1994 fiscal year, which will be October, 1993.

The council approved a three month study by the Higher Education Department on the feasibility of funding selected Creek and Euchee students who would return two years of service to the tribe after graduation.

The proposal would seek the top two percent of Creek

and Euchee high school students to be fully-funded by the Tribe at area colleges or vo-tech schools. Upon completion of their programs, the students would be required to serve a minimum of two years or a maximum of five years with the Creek Nation work force.

In other council action:

— Edwin Marshall of Wetumka was confirmed to the election board;

— adopted the Higher Education Tribal Grant authorization, which allows the Principal Chief to request Higher Education contract with the BIA be converted to the tribe's Higher Education Authorization Act;

— approved the conveying of mineral rights to Clarence Cloud of certain lands in Creek County to complete action taken by the 1981 National Council;

— repealed a bill that authorized \$300,000 from the Permanent Fund for a bid on a commercial bank. Since the Creek Nation bid to purchase Cimarron Savings and Loan failed, the council approved the bill to repeal;

— approved an amendment in the election code which now calls for the posting of absentee ballots when completed;

— approved \$400 to the Tallahassee Ceremonial Ground for replacing a water well pump;

— approved \$5,440 to the Elder-Youth conference from the water-sewer grants account;

— and approved a resolution supporting the request of Haskell Indian Junior College's board of regents to the Office of Management and Budget that the amount of \$700,000 be added to the fiscal year 1994 budget.

How the Muscogee (Creek) National Council representatives voted appears on page 11.

State, area briefs

NOW conference

TAHLEQUAH — The first Native American issue conference sponsored by the Oklahoma National Organization for Women will be held at the Cherokee Heritage Museum June 26.

All speakers are of Native American descent. Topics address issues of Native Americans which in turn, are the issues of all America," said Dana Tiger, Creek-Seminole-Cherokee artist and president of the Muskogee chapter of the National Organization for Women, the co-sponsor.

Speakers include: Linda Epperly, J.D. Creek, Seminole attorney; Shan Goshorn, Cherokee, Wolf Clan, artist-educator; Dale Lee Woody, MHR, Cherokee Human Resources Consultant; and Lisa Tiger, Creek-Seminole-Cherokee, AIDS educator-activist. The key note address will be delivered by Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller.

Issues to be discussed include:

- Sustaining a Culture - tribal sovereignty and legal issues;
- Honoring our Foremothers through Environmental Action;
- Valuing Ethnic Diversity and Confronting Racism; and
- Mind Body and Soul: protecting the health of native women.

Registration includes: admission to the Cherokee Heritage Museum and Village; lunch; a signed conference

poster; pow wow admission; and a "bring your own goodies picnic" June 26.

Registration amounts include: \$40, NOW members; \$55, non-NOW member; and \$30, low income stipend. Send registration and check payment to: Dana Tiger Studios, HC 73, Box 277, Park Hill, OK, 74451. Arrangements for special registration can be arranged by calling (918) 456-4229.

Public hearing

OKMULGEE — A public hearing is scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 23 on the Child Care and Development block grant proposal in the Independent Agencies Building auditorium at the tribal complex. The Child Care and Development grant is a program that provides financial assistance for income eligible tribal citizens to apply toward monthly child care obligations.

Livestock workshop

DUSTIN — The Creek and Choctaw Nation will sponsor a 4-H and FFA Livestock workshop at 10 a.m. June 15 at the Creek Nation Dairy, west of Dustin. The emphasis will be on livestock show projects including beef cattle, horses, sheep and swine.

Tribal town enrolling

WETUMKA — The Kialegee Tribal Town will have workers visiting homes in and around the Wetumka area taking applications for enrollment for membership in Kialegee Tribal Town. Call (405) 452-3413 for more information. This will not affect Creek enrollment.

Creek students excel academically

Tenetke Deer

WETUMKA — Tenetke "Son" Deer, a student at Wetumka Elementary School, received the Presidential Academic Fitness Award for maintaining a 3.8 grade point average and a spot on the Principal's Honor Roll for the past three years.



Deer

Deer is the son of Bonnie and Lisa K. Deere of Okmulgee, and is the maternal great-grandson of Melissa Deer of Wetumka.

James Davis

WASHINGTON, D.C. — James R. Davis of Hanna was selected to attend the National Youth Leadership forum on security and defense.



Davis

He was among 350 outstanding high school students at the program to learn about national defense and global security systems.

He is Creek and is the son of Jim and Chanenana Davis, the grandson of Woodrow Sulphur, Sr. of Eufaula and Mrs. H.K. Davis of Hanna.

Davis extended his thanks to the Creek Nation and National Council for helping sponsor the trip.

Steven Williams

GRAHAM — Steven Williams of Graham High School has been selected to appear in the United States Achievement Academy yearbook.

The academy selects students on the recommendation of teachers, coaches, counselors or other school sponsors. The criteria area student's academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, respon-

sibility and the motivation to learn.

Williams was recommended by Mrs. Ida Lawson, a science teacher at Graham. He is the son of Hank and Ann Williams and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Basil Vaughn of Dewar and the late Pauline Williams.

Jill Spratt

SITKA, Alaska — Jill Spratt has been named to the Dean's honor roll at Sheldon-Jackson College of Sitka, Alaska for the fall term.

Spratt is freshman majoring in multicultural education.

She is the daughter of Raul and Dianna Weisz of Natura. Her grandparents are Stella and Lyman Bruner.

Suzanne Peoples

WOODWARD, Okla. — Suzanne Peoples, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Peoples of Woodward, was selected for recognition of excellence to the United States Achievement Academy.

The selection goes to less than 10 percent of all students nationwide. Her biography and photograph will be published in the USAA yearbook.

She is the granddaughter of Ann Gordon of Okmulgee and the niece of Claude Cox, former Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Lanita Kaye Barnett

HANNA — Lanita Kaye Barnett, a third grader of Hanna School, received a medal for scoring a 70 percentile rank nationwide in the Iowa Basic Skills Test.

Barnett had earned several previous academic awards prior the Iowa test honor. She scored more than 50 percent nationwide while in kindergarten and the first grade and was on the superintendent's honor roll with a 3.5 grade-point-average.

In the second and third grade she was on the Board of Education honor roll with a 4.0. Barnett will be in the fourth grade next school year at Hanna.

She is the daughter of Mitchell and Rebecca Barnett of Hanna and the granddaughter of Dixie Byrd of Hanna.

Quannah Harjo

HOLDENVILLE — Quanah Star Harjo was named to the Holdenville High School academic hall of fame and the academic all-state team. Harjo, the son of Jessie Harjo of Holdenville, was also one of the top 10 seniors of his graduating class as well as a finalist for the National Merit Scholarship. He also received the presidential fitness award and the state academic fitness award. He was a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, National and State Honor societies and was on the scholastic team and academic bowl team for four years.



photo by Don Campbell

Each year the Checotah Future Farmers of America chapter recognizes an individual or organization that goes beyond the call of duty in support of the chapter's program. The 1993 award went to the Checotah Indian Community. Accepting for the CIC is Joe July, center, community chairman. Making the presentation were Chris Choate, left, and Kyle Tudor.

Indians win poster contests at Mason schools

MASON — American Indian students swept top honors in a anti-drug poster contest recently at the Mason School. The contest entries had to be worked on during school hours with no help from home. The winners were Matthew West, best overall winner grades kindergarten to first, \$50; Savings Bond; Deedra Winford, runner-up, 1st grade, \$10; best overall winner 2-3 grades, Samatha Coon, 2nd grade, \$50; runner-up Tiana Morgan, 2nd grade, \$10.

Diacon awarded at Philbrook Museum art show

SPRINGDALE, Ark. — Johnnie Lee Diacon of Springdale, Ark. received an honorable mention for his art work entitled "Mekko's Arbor," at the Philbrook Museum earlier this year. He is the son of Delmer and Helen Diacon of Springdale. Diacon, a University of Arkansas sophomore, and his wife Karen have one child, Melissa.

Wilson schools, others, provide after school program

WILSON — An after school program has been provided at the Wilson School by the Creek Nation JTPA and the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service designed for the prevention of drug and alcohol addiction in Indian communities.

The children have also learned about ceremonies and languages. The Kachina was painted by the children to display in Washington, D.C. for the National Youth at Risk Conference, which will highlight the After School Programs.

Students involved in the program include Heather Thompson, Justin Wilbourn, Josh Thompson, Diana Birdcreek, Alicia Garven, Jesse Burton, Danny Putman, April Wilbourn, Crystal Putman and Ashley Edmondson.



Tiger named president of Haskell board of regents

LAWRENCE, Kan. — George Tiger, a member of the Creek National Council from Okmulgee, was elected president of the Board of Regents of Haskell Indian Junior College. The Board of Regents consists of 15 members representing a national constituency and is designed to promote the interests of Haskell and its student body. The board meets at least twice a year to review policies and procedures.

Tiger is a 1971 alumnus of Haskell and a graduate of Morris High School. He has served as a tribal council member since January, 1992 and is the vice-chair of the business and governmental operations committee. He also serves as a business development specialist with the Oklahoma Indian Business Development Center and is the sports director for KOKL radio in Okmulgee.

The Creek Nation has the fourth largest enrollment of students in Haskell.

Muscogee (Creek) graduates

Courtney Freeman

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Courtney



Freeman

Meria Freeman (Creek-Cherokee) graduated May 15 from Kansas State University with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in economics and political science.

She is the daughter of Patrick and Vera Freeman

of Cherokee, N.C. She is the granddaughter of the late Jess and Margaret Freeman, Okmulgee.

She is employed at the Museum of the Cherokee Indian in North Carolina.

William Bales

MORRIS — William Mel Bales graduated from Morris High School.

Bales was a four-year member of the basketball team and he played baseball for two years. He was the captain of the basketball team and helped lead the Eagles to the area playoffs. He is also ac-

tive in the Morris Assembly of God Church.

Bales received two scholarships for higher education. He received the PTA and the JOM scholarships. He plans on attending Tulsa Junior College.

He is the son of Floyd and Jackie Bales of Morris. Mr. Bales is employed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Rhonda Harjo

OKLAHOMA CITY — Rhonda D. Harjo, former Creek Nation princess (1987-89), graduated from Oklahoma City University with a joint degree from the School of Law and the Meinders School of Business.

She is the daughter of Amon and Sylvia Harjo of Anadarko and her maternal grandmother is Eunice Isom of Claremore.

Harjo maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average and graduated at the top of her law class. The OCU law school recognized her academic achievements by awarding her with the West Publishing Company excellence in Securities Regulation award.

While in school Harjo was the national vice president of the national Native American Law Students Association, the third-year board of governors class representa-

tive and a merit scholar. She is also the student editor for the American Indian Journal publication of the OCU Native American Legal Resource Center.

She and her OCU law school teammate Christopher Liebman, placed second in the first annual national NALSA moot court competition. She was also awarded the Board of Governors award for special contribution to the law school for 1990-91. She was employed as a law clerk for Colbert Cullen Associates in Oklahoma City and as an intern for the Oklahoma Indian Legal Services.

Harjo plans to take the Oklahoma Bar exam this summer and practice in the state.

Jim Berryhill Jr.

WILSON — Jim Thorpe Berryhill, Jr.

graduated from Wilson High School and plans to attend Bacone Junior College and then enter Northeastern Oklahoma State University.

Berryhill was active in basketball four years, baseball three years, was in the FFA for four years, class treasurer for two years, secretary for one year, yearbook one year, typical teenager one year, basketball coronation attendant one year.

He is the son of Jim Berryhill, Sr. and Retha Moore. He is the grandson of Martha Berryhill of Henryetta.

Jeffrey O'Dell

CANEY VALLEY, Kan. — Jeffrey O'Dell graduated from Caney Valley High School, Caney Valley. He is a descendant of the Wiley-Watson family of Dustin.

O'Dell was editor-in-chief of the Bullpup Observer, president of lettermen's club, treasurer of the student council, sophomore and junior class council representative, Kane Kan (yearbook)



O'Dell

staff, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Kansas Association of youth, Bullpup Club, FBLA, Playmakers, forensics, band, football, wrestling, track and field and he is a member of the American Baptist Youth of the First Baptist Church in Caney, Kansas.

Among the honors he received are the National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American High School students, principal's honor roll, second in sportswriting at the regional journalism contest, fifth in the state journalism contest, third in heavyweight powerlifting and he was the regional 3A heavyweight wrestling champion.

He plans to attend Haskell Indian Junior College and the University of Kansas School of Journalism, Lawrence, Kansas.

He is the son of Laura and Larry O'Dell and the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Harmon Wiley of Miami, Okla. and Mr. and Mrs. Lorence O'Dell of Little Rock, Ark.

Jay Haynes

OKMULGEE — Jay Scott Clahoua Haynes graduated from Okmulgee Christian Academy.

His graduation took place on May 22, which was also four days after the 28th wedding anniversary of his parents.

He carried a 3.8 grade point average and plans to study hotel management.

He is the son of Felix and Gloria Haynes, and the brother of Felecia Chuckluck of Tahlequah and Leslie Stone of Okmulgee.

His grandparents are Annie Haynes and the late Jay Haynes of Okmulgee.

Patricia Wind

TALEQUAH — Patricia Wind graduated from Northeastern Oklahoma State University with a bachelor of science degree in early childhood.

She worked in the Headstart program for 14 years, eight as a teacher in the Creek Nation program and she is currently the education coordinator for the Cherokee Nation Headstart program. She was selected as one of the 20 people across the nation to attend the Johnson & Johnson Headstart Health advisory committee in Washington, D.C.

Joy Endres

PRESTON — Joy Endres has earned the honor of valedictorian for her graduating class at Preston High School.

Endres maintained a 4.0 grade-point-average during her four years. She has been a class officer and a member of the Superintendent's honor roll all four years. As a junior Endres won the Oklahoma Honor Scholar Award for being in the top 10 percent of Oklahoma juniors.

She attended the Oklahoma Institute of biology summer science academy. She also won several awards at scholastic meets in algebra I and II, Oklahoma history, English literature, typing I and physics. Endres received the top student awards in English, algebra I and II, biology I, geometry, physics, safety education, Oklahoma history and home economics. She also received the Optimist Club student of the month award twice.

Endres is listed in the Who's Who Among American High School Students, has been a member of the Oklahoma Honor Society, captain of the academic bowl team and a four-year starter in both basketball and softball. She is a member of the Preston First Baptist Church. She will attend Oklahoma University to major in physical therapy. She will also attend the Headlands Program, sponsored by OU, at Mackinac Island, Mich.

Endres is the daughter of Mike and Barbara Endres of Preston and the granddaughter of Dorothy (Holata) Pinezaddleby of Morris, James Holata of Oklahoma City and L.D. and Ruth Endres of Preston.



Endres

Cousins excel on high school teams

PRAGUE — Four cousins played a role in the success of their high school basketball teams drive to the state tournament.

Treasure Fincher and Kineta Swink both of the Prague Lady Red Devils, and Monica White and Myriah Rogers of the Paden Lady Pirates, were on the teams that reached the state finals in their respective class.

All four are the great-granddaughters of the late John W. Lee and the late Audra Doyle Lee of Paden. Mrs. Lee is of Creek-Cherokee descent.

Prague won the Class 3A state championship defeating Elk City 57-55. Fincher scored the tying points in the semifinal game sending the game into overtime. Swink played during the state championship game.

Paden settled for second place and finished the season with a 25-3 record, best ever for the school. Forward Myriah Rogers scored 13 points to lead the team in the state finals. Guard Monica White was named to the All-Tournament team.

Welcome to the 19th Annual Creek Nation Festival & Rodeo

Greetings,

What a great event for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation! As Principal Chief, I am pleased to join you in the celebration of our holiday - Creek Festival 1993. You know, the interest and participation of people of all ages from the many tribal towns and communities is what makes this a most exciting gathering.

The Creek Festival offers a unique combination of culture and progressive spirit, creating the perfect setting for these festivities. This certainly is an important event for us, an annual tradition which reaffirms our rich and cherished heritage, including the Euchee Reunion, sporting competitions, arts and crafts, and cultural display. Not only do these activities reflect the strong and joyous spirit of our people, but the festival benefits many of our communities and organizations in fund raising.

Many of us look forward to our annual celebration because it gives us the opportunity to renew and establish friendships. Again, welcome to the Creek Festival 1993. I wish everyone a most enjoyable experience.

Sincerely,

Bill S. Fife, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation



1993 Festival offers more events and fun for everyone than ever

OKMULGEE — Honoring the elders of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation highlights the 19th annual Creek Nation Festival, June 18-20 in Okmulgee.

Several programs and 12 events are scheduled in conjunction with the festival, which has attracted 20,000 people for the three-day affair in previous years.

This year's festival is dedicated the original land allottees of the tribe.

Eleven of the surviving allottees were honored with a banquet during the Memorial Day weekend and they will be honored during the annual festival, which includes softball tournaments, rodeo, arts and crafts and a downtown parade.

The Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation pageant kicked the festival activities on Saturday with the crowning of Marva Jackson.

Jackson won the Miss Muscogee Nation title over seven other contestants before a full auditorium of friends and guests, said Rita Williams, festival coordinator.

"This year the pageant committee did something different for the contestants," Williams said. "They were oriented on Creek government and culture." She said the workshop was conducted by National Council members and traditional spokespersons.

With most events scheduled for Friday and Saturday, the golf and tennis tournaments will continue to Sunday.

One of the most popular events is the Creek

Olympics for children and youth. The Olympics is expected to attract over 1,000 youths between the ages of 6-16 for the opening day event, June 18 at Okmulgee's Harmon Stadium. Henry Harjo is the coordinator for the event.

Two events that were held for the first time



last year will continue for this year's festival, Williams said.

The gospel singing will be Saturday night with Wilma Berryhill as the coordinator for the event.

Festival: food, fun, and fellowship

Last year's first pow-wow was so successful it will be held again this year on Friday and Saturday nights at Covelle Hall on the campus of OSU/Okmulgee (Tech).

Courtney Yarholar of Norman, Okla., will be the head man dancer and Andrea Kemble of Hominy, Okla. will be the head lady dancer. Both are Creek citizens.

Curtis Zunigha, executive director of the American Indian Heritage Center in Tulsa, will be the MC. Completing the staff are John Peacock as the arena director and the Broken Arrow Gourd clan is the host gourd clan.

Okema Randall is the coordinator for the pow-wow.

The senior citizens activities will start at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 19 in the air conditioned complex building with a domino tournament in the BIA conference room. Senior citizens who have arts and crafts and invited to set up their booth on Saturday in the complex building. There is no charge for those 55 years or older for this event. Tables will be furnished.

A bingo game is planned following the Euchee Reunion. The games will be free and seniors will be playing for grocery and gift items.

The Euchee School Reunion will begin taking registrations on Friday in the complex. The dinner will be held Saturday noon. For more information contact Phillip Coon.

Creek stomp dances and an exhibition stick ball game will also be featured on Saturday at the Omniplex field.

Beginning at 3 p.m. the Arbeka grounds will demonstrate the Guinea dance, followed by the Nuyaka grounds display of the double header. Duck Creek dancers will then perform the turtle dance and the Tallahassee grounds will demonstrate the friendship dance.

At 4:30 p.m. Saturday, following the dances, two rival grounds will play the stickball game with Spencer Frank and Eunice Hill as the narrators for the games.

The dances and stickball game are sponsored by the State Arts Council of Oklahoma. Arnold

Taylor and Mike Berryhill are the coordinators for the dances and stickball game.

Other activities and coordinators of the events include the following:

- Softball tournaments, Friday, Omniplex, Dean Williams and Charley Lasarge, coordinators. The men's field will have 32 teams and 16 women's team, including men's defending champions the Haskell Indians and women's champions OKC All Tribes;

- Creek Nation All-Indian Rodeo, Friday, Saturday, Omniplex, Sonny O'Hearn, coordinator. Another huge field of Native American cowboys are expected during the two night event;

- Volleyball, Saturday at the Omniplex with Annie Hicks, Simmer

Hicks, coordinators. Last year 22 teams entered the tournament, which was won by Team Work of Tahlequah, who defeated the Youngbloods of Tulsa. The Okemah Wranglers took third place;

- Archery, featuring primitive bows and arrows will be conducted by Mike Berryhill at the Omniplex on Saturday;

- Tennis tournament will be Friday, Saturday, Sunday at the Okmulgee City courts, with Bruce Harjo and Gretchen Harjo as the coordinators;

- Golf, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Fountainhead Resort Golf Course. Over 100 golfers are expected to compete, said Jim Burgess, coordinator. A scramble will be held on Friday with tournaent play scheduled for Saturday and Sunday. A fish fry dinner will be provided at noon Saturday;

- Bowling, Friday, Saturday at Beeline Bowl, Sarah Ward, coordinator;

- 5-K run, Saturday, Roger Barnett, coordinator. Barnett can be reached at 756-8700, extension 262.

- Concession, arts and crafts will be available. For more information call Pearl Thomas at 918-756-8700.

- Children's Health Fair will offer a variety of activities and information for children and



adults at the youth olympics June 18 at harmon Stadium. The fair will show videos on all aspects of health care, hand out literature, and plenty of ice and water. Janice Fulton is heading the event operated by the public health nurses from the Sapulpa, Okemah, and Eufaula health clinics.

Special Thanks
to the 1993 Creek Nation
Festival & Rodeo Committee. Their
efforts
helped make the
1993 Festival possible and without
an additional appropriation by
sponsoring fund-raising activities
supported by volunteers.

Shelly Crow, chair
Jimmy Gibson
Henry Harjo
Sonny O'Hern
Barton Williams
Sherry Baker
Okema Randall
Pearl Thomas

Area society briefs

OSU senior wins art show

STILLWATER — Tim Tiger, a Stillwater senior at Oklahoma State University, won first place in Studio Art during the student art exhibition.

Tiger's entry was an untitled work of copper, bronze, wood and brass.

The *Stillwater NewsPress* reported Tiger's work was typical of the originality displayed in the Art Department's exhibition.

The *NewsPress* reported the following interview with Tiger on his art work.

"The work basically stems from elements of Indian history," said Tiger, a Stillwater native who is a member of the Creek nation. "Part of it comes from the Spiro mounds of Oklahoma and also elements of the ghost dance from the late 1800's. It also derives from personal experience as well."

Tiger does not want to reveal too much about his piece, though.

"I try to give a small hint, but not too much, so the viewer can pull whatever they want to out of the piece," he said. "Students of Indian history could pull a lot from it."

While he has been a metals student for quite some time, Tiger said his winning piece was his first attempt at finding his own style.

"In the past I've been concentrating on technique. This was my first branch out into my own," he said. "My metals instructor, Chris Ramsey, and my drawing instructor, Marty Avrett, were both instrumental. Chris is always encouraging you to push yourself and Marty teaches you to never, ever forget the basics, and to explore other mediums."

Reedy named association princess

SPRINGFIELD, Tenn. — Paige Reedy was named and honored as "Miss Native American Indian Association Princess" for 1993-94.

She is the daughter of Laurie and Jimmy Reedy of Springfield, Tenn. where he is employed with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She is also the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Goines of Checotah and Mrs. L.C. Reedy of Bartlesville.

Reedy is a descendent of Alexander McGillivray, a prominent leader of the Creeks, 1759-1793. Her great-grandfather, Louis McGilbra was appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt as a light horseman.

Reedy is a member of the Creek Nation and the Hickory ceremonial ground and the Tuskogee Church.

Sapulpa youth has birthday

SAPULPA — Jerome McCosar of Sapulpa celebrated his seventh birthday May 5 at Davis Park with a cookout.

Celebrating the birthday with him were his family and friends, Larry and Janie McCosar, paternal grandparent Nellie McCosar, maternal grandparents James and Edna Pickering of Sapulpa.

McCombs family reunion

EUFALA — The annual McCombs family reunion dinner will be July 3 at the Eufaula Indian Community building at 806 West Forrest.

The event is held in honor of the late Rev. William McCombs, who served the Creek Nation and his community as a National Councilman, as a Justice of the Supreme Court, as Superintendent of Public Instruction, as national interpreter under Chief Pleasant Porter and as a Baptist minister for 61 years.

Descendants, relatives and friends are urged to attend the covered dish dinner.

Jackson receives honors

MUSKOGEE — Kimberly Kay Jackson, 16, has amassed a list of honors during her school years in Muskogee.

She has been placed in accelerated classes during her elementary, junior high and high school years. She has just completed her sophomore year at Muskogee High School.

At West Junior High she was in the National Junior Honor Society, state and Indian honor societies, student council representative for two years and was named an All-American scholar.

She is active in the Fife Memorial United Methodist Church where she is the church administrative board recording secretary and is the youth group's secretary and treasurer.

Kim is Creek and Choctaw and is the daughter of Louie and Kathleen Jackson. She is the granddaughter of the late Rev. Forbis and Teola Durant and the late Luella Jackson.



McCosar

Creek nation births and birthdays

Robert Hardin

DETROIT, Mich. — Robert Russell Douglas Hardin was born Dec. 21 at Grace Hospital in Detroit, Mich. to Lana and Carl Hardin.

Robert weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20 inches at birth.

Maternal grandparents are Marcelle Adams Douglas of Detroit and Irving Douglas of Arlington, Texas. Paternal grandparents are Nan and James Hardin of Mauldin, S.C.



Hardin

Nashoba Ohoyo Snow

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Nashoba Snow celebrated her first birthday in March with her relatives. Snow is the daughter of Robin DuBose and Juan Snow. Her maternal grandmother is Ruth DuBose of Hempstead, and her maternal great-grandmother is Maude Robinson Baxter. Her maternal great-great-grandfather is John Henry Robinson.



Snow

Shannon Lynne Barnett

TULSA — Shannon Lynne Barnett celebrated her first birthday May 29. She is the daughter of Daniel and Kay Barnett of Tulsa. She is of Creek and Cherokee descent. Paternal grandparents are Dicey and Ed Barnett of Henryetta. Maternal grandparents are Margaret and the late Artussee Fields of Tulsa.



Barnett

Creek children win contests

Sullivan places at photo contest

TULSA — Tiffany Chantelle Sullivan of Okmulgee was the fourth place winner in the first annual statewide photograph baby contest, sponsored by the Oklahoma Indian Theatre and Dance Company.

Tiffany, of Creek and Absentee Shawnee descent, is the 11 month old daughter of Pamela Sullivan of Okmulgee. Maternal grandparents are Thomas and Glenda Sullivan of Dennehotso, Ariz.



Sullivan

Brother, sister place at pageant

TULSA — Two Creek-Yuchi children won a local "America's Cover Miss and Mr. Pageant" contest.

Britain Nicole Back, nine months old, won the overall beauty division award for her age category. She was sponsored by Nameplates, Inc. Mark Alan Back, II, was also entered in the "America's Cover Miss and Mr. Pageant." He won the beauty division for his age group, 2-3 years old. He was sponsored by Gloria Vaughn.



Britain



Mark

Communities prepare for summer activities

Eufaula Indian Community

EUFAULA — The Eufaula Indian Community had an Easter egg hunt for the children of the community at the Kiwanis Park on Saturday, April 10.

After everyone had hunted eggs and were quieting down, sandwiches and soft drinks were served to everyone who attended.

A special thanks to thee EIC for having the egg hunt and to all who helped hide eggs.

We wish to thank Tommy Pickering for getting it all together. It was a job well done.

"Jon" Mark Tiger has been named the Eufaula Indian Community's Indian of the year.

Tiger, an artist and a researcher for the diabetes program and coordinator of the pow-wow, is the son of the late Yahola and Harriette Tiger and he was raised by his grandparents, the the B.B. and Susie Cosar Scott.

Tiger started publicly exhibiting his art work in 1971 at the age of 16, when he won a fourth place in the Indian Trade Fair in Tulsa.

He attended Eufaula schools but graduated from Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah in 1973. He later studied at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M. with nationally known artist Allen Houser at his instructor. He also studied at OSU/Okmulgee and at the University of Arts and Science at Chickasha.

Tiger designed the 1990 International Native Language Conference logo and had art selected for the "State of the Art '93", New England's fine art institute national invitational exhibition of American contemporary art, which is the largest in the northeastern United States.

"As long as I have an arm to paint, I will record the many moods of my people," Tiger said of his art work and devotion.

"In all these activities of the Indian community he has contributed, whether great or small," a spokesperson for the EIC said of Tiger. "He expresses his concerns not only through his art work, but for his many services he can do for his people. We salute this young man and his efforts by naming him the EIC Indian of the year."

Okmulgee Indian Community

OKMULGEE — Eleven graduating Native American seniors from Okmulgee High School were honored by the Okmulgee Indian Community on Sunday, May 16.

At the banquet, Senora Manley was named the winner of the Okmulgee Indian Community scholarship of \$500. She also received a \$500 scholarship from the Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

Manley, the daughter of Elizabeth Phillips and Hillis Manley, plans to attend Tulsa Junior College and to enter the nursing field.

At OHS, Manley was on the pom-pom squad for two years, basketball and journalism for two years, Spanish Club for three years, Indian Club for four years and she also participated on the track team.

Also on the program was special speaker, Abe McIntosh, director of Human Development for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Along with Manley, six other students announced their



Manley

future plans. Stephanie Thomas plans to attend Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colo.; Angela Bunner plans to attend Oklahoma State University, Stillwater; Reginald Benson will join the Marine Corps, Amanda Fleetwood will enroll at Tulsa University, Clinton Jennings will attend Rogers State College, Claremore and Delysa Rozell will attend OSU/Okmulgee.

Others attending the banquet include Kimberly Pope, Creek; Zoelynn Tiger, Sehoya Tecumseh and Dana Watson.

The OIC is beginning to recruit team members for the Creek Nation Olympics, which will be run Friday, June 18 at Harmon Stadium.

Okmulgee youths, 6 to 16, wanting to be in the Olympics should contact Sydney Long at 756-5627 or David Proctor at 756-2112.

Applications are also available at Okmulgee schools and the two smoke shops.

Checotah Indian Community

The Checotah Indian Community held its monthly meeting on May 11 with two guest speakers and the announcement for the community picnic on June 6.

Jackie Triplett of the Behavioral Services Unit in Okemah spoke about the services they offer. Also speaking was Ben Yahola of Tulsa who spoke about the Elders and Youth Conference, June 9-12 at Okemah, which is a cultural program.

Two recipients of the scholarships given by the CIC were Rita Courtwright and Bernard Jackson. The presentation was made at the Checotah High School awards assembly on May 14.

The "Summer Extravaganza" for children in grades 1-6 will begin June 7 and end July 8, Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Amy Neumeyer will coordinate the program.

The youth will have a concession stand during the Old Settler's Day and will also have a fireworks stand in June until July 4.

Anthony Mitchell, Creek-Seminole artist, displayed his work at the Community Center on May 29.

Kellyville Indian Community

KELLYVILLE — A professional wrestling match will be featured on Saturday, June 19 at the Community Center on the north end of Kellyville on highway 66.

The matches will get underway at 8 p.m. with tickets at \$5 per person. Proceeds will benefit the Indian Community, a spokesperson said.

Holdenville Indian Community

HOLDENVILLE — A van has been purchased by the Holdenville Indian Community for the transportation of the elders.

The van will be used for the transportation of elders to area clinics and hospitals as well for community use.

The community will receive help this summer with five JTPA workers. The workers will help in a variety of duties at the community center.

Children and youth are being recruited to participate in the Creek Nation Festival Olympics. The team will be the first Holdenville community athletes to enter the Creek Olympics.

Tulsa Indian Community

TULSA — A special meeting will be called during June

to discuss the location of the proposed community center building, said chairperson Norma Posey.

Posey said community members should be awaiting word from her of when and where the special meeting will take place. The board is currently looking for a meeting place to hold the discussion.

The community meetings have been held in the Turner Recreation Center, but because of several summer events held at the Center, the board felt another meeting site should be located.

Posey said members of the community will be informed of the site and time of the meeting.

Koweta Indian Community

KOWETA — A special father's day event has been scheduled at the Koweta Indian Community Center on June 14.

A pot-luck dinner will be provided by the members of the community beginning at 6:30 p.m. A special Mother's day event was held at the center last month with the men serving the women ice cream, punch and cake. The mothers also received long stem roses for the occasion.

Coaches for the Creek Festival Olympics this year are John T. McIntosh, Vickie and Robert Bush. Children from 6 to 16 years old who want to be in the Olympics should contact the coaches.

The completion of the community center building is nearing an end. An open house is being planned for July. The building is an extension of the present smoke shop facility and will provide space for a work area and an arts and crafts display area.

Members of the community mourned the death of Homer Sarty, who died on May 25. Funeral services were held on May 27 at the Coweta First Baptist Church with burial in the Vernon Cemetery, Coweta.

The community is currently in prayer for several elders who are ill, said community president Barbara Gillespie.



photo by Noah Long

These Creek Nation Youth Club members washed cars to raise money for a field trip. The club is sponsored by Irene Culley of the tribe's Children and Family Services program.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

RITCHIE BEAVER

EUFALA — Funeral services were held May 29 at the First Baptist Church of Eufaula for the Rev. Ritchie Beaver.

Beaver, 40, died May 22 on the Mossomin Reserve in Saskatchewan, Canada where he was serving as a missionary.

Rev. Beaver was both in Tahlequah Feb. 2, 1953 to Raymond and Hattie Beaver. He attended and graduated from Eufaula where he excelled in academics and athletics. He participated in track and in the Dept. of English, speech and drama. He was a finalist in the state competition in original oratory.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps on Sept. 1, 1971. He was a platoon honor man and had achieved the rank of Staff Sargent by the time of his discharge in 1974.

Beaver was baptized by the late Rev. Willie Kelley on June 3, 1961. On May 26, 1979 he and Molline Davis were married by Rev. George Jesse at Spring Baptist in Sasakwa. He was licensed to preach by the Central Baptist Church in Oklahoma City on Oct. 1, 1984. He and his wife were volunteers to New Hope Baptist in Banner, Okla. where he served as interim pastor. He was ordained into the ministry in 1989 by Okfuskee Baptist, his home church. He and his wife then started their mission work in Canada.

Survivors include his wife Molline, a son John and a daughter Tusa Jane all of Cochin, Saskatchewan, Canada; his parents Rev. Raymond and Hattie Beaver of Eufaula; three brothers Robert of Texas and James and Byar of Eufaula and a host of relatives and friends.

A song service was held at the Merritt Funeral Home in Eufaula on May 28 and funeral services were at 2 p.m. May 29 with the Rev. Raymond Beaver, Rev. Richard Pickup and Rev. Jimmy Anderson officiating.

Pallbearers were Robert James and Byar Beaver, Terry Osecap, Peter Oseca and Glon Davis. Burial was in the Greenwood Cemetery under the direction of the Merritt Funeral Home, Eufaula, with the United States Marine Corps Honor Guard conducting military rites.

Memorials may be sent to the National Indians Missions Fund, care of Rev. Jimmy Anderson, 403 North Washington, Shawnee, Okla. 74801.

RONALD C. REEDER

ANADARKO — Graveside services for Ronald C. Reeder were held on Tuesday, May 25 at the Memory Lane Cemetery under the direction of the Smith Funeral Home.

Reeder was born on Jan. 23, 1956 in Claremore, Okla. and he died on May 22 in the Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City. He had lived in Calumet, Okla. for the past 10 years and was a member of the Indian Capitol Baptist Church in Andarko.

He is survived by his foster father Clete Reeder of Calumet, mother Helen Thompson of Glenpool, sister Tina Blodgett of Leavenworth, Wash., two brothers Robert Reeder of Lamar, Kenny Reeder of

Tulsa and a half-sister Tammy Thompson and a half-brother Larry Thompson, both of Glenpool.

GEORGE BRUNER

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for George Bruner, 79, were held Thursday, June 3, at the Salt Creek United Methodist Church. Bruner died at his residence north of Holdenville on Sunday, May 30, 1993.

He was born in Hughes County to Dave Bruner and the former Ida Kornell on March 18, 1914. He was a retired machinist and farmer.

He is survived by his wife Lizzie of the home, one son Melvin and wife Rosetta Bruner of Seminole and one step-son George Douglas Scott of Arizona. Also, three daughters Phyllis Warrington of Sapulpa, Deborah Clark and husband Kenneth Brown of Wewoka, Georgetta and husband Paul Fixico of Sapulpa, 13 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren; three sisters Lucinda Walkingstick of Tulsa, Mattie Lou Factor of Sasakwa and Alice Stephens of Tulsa, along with several nieces, nephews and a host of friends and relatives.

Services were officiated by the Rev. Robert Baker and Andrew Deere with burial in the Harjo family cemetery under the direction of the James R. Dolton Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Jerry Wilson, Alfred Wilson, Allen Yargee, Freeland Powell, Kenneth Larney and Chuck McHenry.

GEORGIA BROWN

SAPULPA — Funeral services were held for Georgia Brown April 29 at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church. Rev. Jake Wildcat officiated.

Brown was born on Oct. 24, 1918 and died April 26, 1993.

Full military rites were provided by the Sapulpa Veterans Organization.

Serving as pall bearers were Gary Jones, Johnny Jones, Kelly Bucktrot, Robert Bucktrot, Jerry Bucktrot, and Sunny Bucktrot. Honorary bearers were Mike Bucktrot, Gene Jones, and Leslie Gibbs.

Burial was at the Green Hills Memorial Gardens under the direction of Smith Funeral Home, Sapulpa.

LOUIS BLUFORD

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Louis Bluford were held May 6 at the Lee and Walnut Church of

Christ in Sapulpa.

Bluford was born August 20, 1915 and he died May 2, 1993.

Serving as pall bearers were Starling Knight, Thomas Henry Knight, Morris Harjo, Jon Pahsetopah, Anthony Harjo and Nathaniel Smith.

Burial was in the Green Hills Memorial Gardens in Sapulpa, under the direction of the Smith Funeral Home.



Bluford

MARGURITE COX

TUSCON, Ariz. — Funeral services were held May 17, 1993 for Margurite J. Cox of Tucson, Ariz., who died May 13.

Cox was preceded in death by her husband Samuel J. Cox. Graveside rites were at the South Lawn Cemetery in Tucson. Remembrances may be made to the Salvation Army, Tucson branch.

She is survived by her children Jack (Sharon) Cox and Jerry Cox both of Tucson, Norma (Bill) Funkhouser of Yuma and Tim J. (Sharon) Cox of Texas. Also surviving are her mother Jewel Gordon, six sisters, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

PAUL J. CULLEY

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Paul J. Culley were held May 29 at the Salt Creek Baptist Church, Wetumka. Culley died May 26 at the Wetumka General Hospital at the age of 61.

Culley was a former insurance claim adjustor for the Creek Nation Housing Authority.

He attended Spaulding Public Schools, Chilocco Indian School and the University of Wisconsin where he earned a counseling degree. He was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars, serving in the Army, retiring after 20 years of service. He was a member of the Spring Baptist Church at Sasakwa.

Survivors include his widow Lorene of the home, three sons, Farron J. Culley of Okemah, Arron Culley of Oklahoma City and Dennis Culley of Pawnee; three daughters, Paula Hill of Wetumka, Deborah Harjoce of Okemah and Mary Culley of Brussels, Belgium; also a grandson Ruben; a brother Johnson Scott of Oklahoma City; three sisters, Eula Powell of Holdenville, Amelia Kornell of Shawnee and Shirley Squire of Sapulpa and a close friend Frank Spencer of Wewoka, along with several other relatives and friends.



Culley

Pallbearers were Bill Proctor, Lumber Proctor, Eddie Lagrone, Rick Lillard, Simmon Johnson and Floyd Osborn. Burial was in the Salt Creek cemetery under the direction of the Williamson Funeral Home, Wetumka.

Muscogee church activities report

District youth schedule tournament

PRESTON — The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Northeast District Youth are holding a co-ed volleyball tournament at 9 a.m., June 19.

Entry fee is \$30 per team. The roster is limited to nine, with eight on a team. The divisions are: adult, 18 and over; and youth, 12 through 18.

Proceeds from the fundraising tournament will be used for their annual camp. The tournament will be held at the district center, located one mile east of Preston and U.S. Highway 75.

For more information, call district youth coordinator Rev. David Wilson, after 6 p.m., at (918) 683-3443.

Snake Creek schedules singing

BIXBY — Snake Baptist Church is holding a gospel singing beginning at 7:30 p.m., June 26. The master of ceremonies will be Lewis Gaines. Quartets, choirs, trios, and soloists are welcome.

To get to the church from U.S. Highway 75 drive seven and one-half miles east on 221st St. to dead end road, turn north and follow the road to the church. From Bixby, drive south on Memorial to 201st St. and turn east. Drive east one mile and turn south.

Conference's UMW hold education event

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference United Methodist Women are holding a mission education event entitled, "Telling the Story

of Treasures Old and New."

The event will be held July 22 through 24 at Saddle Back Inn in Oklahoma City, Okla. Dean and assistant are Barbara Goddard and Karen Tso. Studies will include: Matthew; the Caribbean; and global economics.

Pre-registration is required. Registration fees are: \$70, adults; \$25, commuters; \$25, youth; and \$10, children. A completed registration form and payment should be mailed by June 15 to: OIMC, UMW, Mission Education Event, P.O. Box 3021, Lawrence, KS, 66046.

Big Cussetah active in volunteerism

MORRIS — Big Cussetah's United Methodist Women are also sewing quilts for babies with AIDS. UMW member Mary Gooden reports they will be working on the community service project this month.

Pickett Chapel honors graduates

SAPULPA — Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church recently held a banquet for Sapulpa High School seniors.

Church member Nedra Thompson, Yuchi-Chickasaw, graduated from Mounds High School on May 21. Her future plans include attending Haskell Junior College, Lawrence, Kan. She is the daughter of Carlin and Juanita Thompson.

Mutteloke celbrates birthdays

BRISTOW — Mutteloke United Methodist Church pastor recently underwent

surgery at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa.

Rev. Jackie Davis reports he began recovering from his mid-May surgery just in time to celebrate his June 7 birthday. A pacemaker has been placed in his body in order to regulate his heartbeat. Rev. Davis' wife, Arlene also celebrated a June birthday June 2.

Circuit pastor recovering

WETUMKA - Wetumpka Circuit pastor Rev. Ray Ray McGilbray, underwent surgery to amputate his right leg from the mid-calf in early April.

Salt Creek United Methodist Church member Cora Beaver said McGilbray, a diabetic, is rapidly recovering and watching his diet. He resumed his pastorship duties in early May.

OIMC members make presentation

TULSA — The executive Committee of the General Board of Publications will meet June 29 at the DoubleTree Downtown, 616 W. 7th., in Tulsa.

A featured event of the meeting is the presentation of a teepee replica. Rev. Taylor Harjo Jr., board member, and his wife, Josephine, and Rev. Thomas Roughface, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Superintendent, will make the presentation.

The teepee replica will be placed in the lobby of the publishing house, located in Nashville, Tenn.

Baptist, Methodist Summer Calendar

JUNE

- 19 NE District Youth Co-ed Volleyball Tournament, district center, Preston
- 21-26 Indian Falls Creek, Falls Creek Baptist Assembly, Davis. Rev. Bill Barnett, executive director
- 23-27 UMW West Gulf Regional School of Mission, Baker University, Baldwin, Kan.

JULY

- 12-16 Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association Assembly, MSW Assembly Grounds, Yardeka
- 16-18 United Methodist Men, Purdue University, Indiana
- 21 UMW Conference Executive Committee Meeting
- 22-24 UMW Mission Education Event, Saddle Back Inn, Oklahoma City
- 27-30 NE District Youth Camp, district center, Preston

AUGUST

- 2-6 OIMC Conference Youth Camp, Camp Chippewa, Ottawa, Kan.
- 7 NE District Pastors' meeting, district center, Preston
- 12-14 MSW Indian Baptist Association, Annual Assembly, MSW Assembly Grounds, Yardeka
- 21 NE District Youth Rally, district center, Preston

How they voted

Results of the May 21 National Council Regular Session

VOTING ACTIONS:

NCR 93-08: Requesting that a study be done by the Creek Nation Higher Education Department to check feasibility of fully selected outstanding Creek students for college or vo-tech with employment required at the Creek Nation after graduation.

For: 26. Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Wilson Bear, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill, Alexander Thomas.

Against: 0.

NCR 93-16: Confirming Edwin Marshall to the election board.

For: 26. Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Wilson Bear, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill, Alexander Thomas.

Against: 0.

NCR 93-73: Adopting Higher Education Tribal grant authorization under the provisions of P.L. 102-325.

For: 26. Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Wilson Bear, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill, Alexander Thomas.

Against: 0. Abstain: 1, Clarence Cloud.

NCR 93-87: Headstart re-organize to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Child Development project.

Motion to table for 60 days by Harvey Gilroy, second by Thomas Berryhill.

For: 15. Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

George Tiger, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Richard Berryhill, Clarence Cloud, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe.

Against: 11. Mae Jackson, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Alexander Thomas, Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Wilson Bear, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering.

NCR 93-89: Repealing NCA 93-58. Authorizing funds to complete acquisition of a commercial bank.

For: 20. Mose Cahwee, Clarence Cloud, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

Against: 2. Wilson Bear, Charlie Litsey.

NCR 93-90: Amending NCA 81-82, the election code to read, "Absentee ballot results shall be posted when completed."

For: 22. Mose Cahwee, Clarence Cloud, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Wilson Bear, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

Against: 0.

NCR 93-84: Amending TR 93-03, allowing for the authorization on the annexation of the Muskogee bingo facility by the City of Muskogee.

For: 21. Mose Cahwee, Clarence Cloud, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

Against: 0.

Against: 2. Wilson Bear, Okema Randall. Abstain: 1. Helen Chupco.

NCR 93-80: To provide for the purchase of a water well pump replacement for the Tallahassee Ceremonial Ground at a cost of \$400.

For: 23. Mose Cahwee, Clarence Cloud, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Wilson Bear, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Richard Berryhill.

Against: 1. Okema Randall.

NCR 93-82: Authorizing the Principal Chief to expend from the Water and Sewer grants account the amount of \$5,440 for the Elder and Youth Conference.

For: 21. Mose Cahwee, Clarence Cloud, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Richard Berryhill, Alexander Thomas.

Against: 2. Wilson Bear, Okema Randall. Abstain: 1. Helen Chupco.

NCR 93-20: A resolution supporting the request of Haskell's board of regents that the amount of \$700,000 be added to Haskell Indian Junior College fiscal year 1994 budget.

For: 24. Mose Cahwee, Clarence Cloud, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

Against: 0.

— compiled by Noah Long

Tribal program providing youth with jobs, training

continued from page 1

The program was reviewed by a different body in May, and the result of that evaluation could have far reaching results.

Members of the federal General Accounting Office made an on-site inspection. Their findings will be turned over to the House Committee on education and labor. The House committee will consider the options of a state-operated or tribal-operated JPTA program.

"This is unique in that they (GAO) visited six sites across the country to make their report," Hicks said. From the 186 Native American programs in the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, the Creek Nation was chosen as one of the six programs to be evaluated.

Hicks believes the investigation team will find how well the Creek Nation program relates to its citizens for an effective program in solving the unemployment problem.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Muscogee (Creek) Nation's top elected officials were present at the Creek Council House Museum rededication ceremony held May 29 in Okmulgee. Pictured from left to right are: Creek Chief Bill Fife, Snake Creek Baptist Church pastor George Doyle, keynote speaker Dr. John Fixico, and Creek Second Chief Shelly Crow.

Joint venture contract first step for high tech future

continued from page 1

Officer, said it is unheard of for such a young organization to be awarded a contract so soon.

"We have assembled a great team," Schisler said. "I am especially pleased that we have been successful on our first attempt (for contracts)."

Earlier, Choctaw Creek Technologies, was awarded a contract to manufacture cable measuring machines for the super conducting super collider project.

Tribal leaders said the contracts are the results of several institutions cooperating for the benefit of many. Choctaw Creek Technologies is a partnership between two tribes and this organization has created partnerships with higher education institutions, federal agencies, and the local business community.

Included in the project is Oklahoma State University-Oklmulgee. The school will provide training and technical assistance for the high technology work required with the super collider project.

The joint venture between the Creeks and the Choctaws was created as the result of two tribal leaders sharing similar philosophies on economic development. Mississippi Choctaw Principal Chief Phillip Martin extended an invitation to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife to tour the tribal industry on the Choctaw Reservation. Fife organized a delegation of tribal officials including National Council Speaker Clarence Cloud, council members Wilson Bear, George Tiger, along with

other tribal employees to attend the tour. Jimmy Gibson, Bureau of Indian Affairs Okmulgee Agency Superintendent, was also instrumental in assisting with this tour.

From that visit, the two tribes began discussing possible business opportunities. Chief Martin set up a meeting that included tribal officials and an engineering firm to consider potential involvement in the super conducting super collider project. That discussion led to an agreement to form the joint venture. The agreement was negotiated by tribal attorneys Tim Posey and Leah Ware, former National Council representative Jerry Wilson, and Fife.

A delegation of tribal officials and a representative of OSU- Okmulgee toured the super collider project facility in March.

Tribal officials then sought the support of the National Council for the joint venture and the formation of Muscogee Creek Nation Manufacturing Enterprises.

"I am very proud of the tribal leadership demonstrated with this joint venture," said Clarence Cloud, speaker of the tribal council. "We've known all along that cooperation is essential to any success we might have."

A formal proposal was submitted and then presented by project officials.

"We appreciate the support we received from OSU-Oklmulgee," said Fife. "Their leadership and their institutional capabilities are essential to the

success of this joint venture.

Fife noted that the tribe brings outside capital to the Oklahoma economy and that contributes to the economic growth of the state.

"When the tribe builds partnerships, we benefit everyone," Fife said.

"We're increasing productivity and that increases job opportunities and our tax base," Fife said. "The work is just now beginning," Fife said. "We need to maintain our emphasis on quality. These are characteristics of all of our partners."

Fife also expressed his appreciation for U.S. Congressman Bill Brewster, of Oklahoma's third district for his support.

"We are very pleased that Congressman Brewster supports continued funding of the superconducting super collider project," Fife said. "It only makes sense to continue funding considering the large investment for the future that has already been made. We are asking for support from all Oklahoma congressional delegates and the local Chamber of Commerce to improve the economy in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation reservation area for the benefit of all citizens that reside within the reservation area."

If the joint venture is successful during the technology transfer phase, Choctaw Creek Technologies could vie for a \$45 million production contract that could result in 100 to 200 jobs.



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July 1993, 20 Pages

Creek Nation wins injunction against tax commission

by Noah Long

OKLAHOMA CITY — A federal judge ordered the Oklahoma Highway Patrol to stop interfering with the delivery of tobacco products bound for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

U.S. District Court Judge Wayne Alley granted the order in a preliminary injunction in early June. Alley said he wants to prohibit tribal and state law enforcement confrontations.

"We won one," said Muscogee principal chief Bill Fife about the decision.

The case arose when a state trooper seized a tribal delivery truck on U.S. Highway 69 in Wagoner County. The \$30,000 truck was approved for purchase during the regular May Council meeting.

The judge, however, did not release the tobacco products nor the delivery truck to the tribe.

Both will remain impounded by the state until the court makes a decision in regard to the constitutionality of a new state law to tax non-Indians who purchase tobacco products is constitutional.

The law also states any untaxed tobacco products are subject to seizure.

Alley suggested that the state's new method of collecting taxes on Indian tobacco purchases may be questionable since it may tax tribal members also.

"There are substantial issues of tribal sovereignty involved," Alley said.

Fife said sovereignty has always been the main issue.

"The state has no right to impose their laws on us because we are a sovereign nation," Fife said.

"It begs the question that just because you're not... collecting and remitting [taxes] it gives the state carte blanche," said Mike Minnis, an Oklahoma City attorney representing the tribe.

"Before we have a tribal patrolman and a highway patrolman getting into conflict, this should be decided in court."

Alley agreed and told the state attorney, "you're going to feel pretty bad if there's some confrontation."

please see BATTLE..., page 20

Creek Nation opens Muskogee bingo hall

by Noah Long

MUSKOGEE — A symbol of economic growth, Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo will officially open July 24, announced Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife.

"We're very pleased with the work of so many people in opening our seventh bingo facility," Fife said. "We just want to open it and have it start making more revenue for the tribe."

Following the 3 p.m. grand opening ceremonies, the doors will open to the public for the first game of the evening which is at 5 p.m..

The bingo hall will be the tribe's seventh and it is the second largest in the Creek Nation, with a capacity of 1,000 players. Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo has a capacity of 1,200, while the Okmulgee hall seats 850.

The bingo hall is located on 25 acres at the corner of U.S. Highway 69 and Peak Boulevard south edge Muskogee.

Future plans include a motel on the property.



Principal chief Bill Fife, shakes hands with Muskogee mayor Kathy Hewitt, after signing an agreement for city services to Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo. Also present for the signing were tribal attorney Tim Posey, and Second chief Shelly Crow.

Joe Fox, formerly a tribal gaming compliance commissioner, is the manager of the new facility with Farrell Kaaiahue, former Checotah bingo hall manager, is the assistant manager.

Fox said he plans to employ 43 with 40 of those being Creek citizens. He said the bingo hall will be

please see MUSKOGEE..., page 20

Creek festival to continue in August

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — For the third straight year rain hampered the Creek Nation Festival.

However, the 19th annual festival will be revived for a two-day run on Aug. 7 and 8 in what is being called a "mini-festival."

The softball tournaments for women and men will be concluded during the mini-festival along with the arts and crafts displays, concessions, flea market, and other demonstrations of Creek culture.

Pearl Thomas said flea market booths will set up near the rodeo grounds. Booths may be set up for both days for \$10.

More than 40 women's and men's softball teams will pick up where they left off when the rains hit on the Saturday of the festival.

The August festival will include traditional artisans demonstrating how to make turtle shell shakers and stickball game sticks.

Pearl Thomas said flea market booths will be set up near the rodeo grounds. Booths may be set up for \$10.

The festival proved to be a financial success,

Special
festival
section
inside

please see FESTIVAL..., page 20

Message from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife

Recently, Choctaw Creek Technologies (CCT) — a collaboration of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing and the Choctaw Manufacturing Enterprises (Mississippi Choctaws) — was awarded the high energy booster quadruple magnet technology transfer contract for the superconducting supercollider project in Ellis County, Texas.

This joint venture between the Creeks and Choctaws was created as the result of two tribal leaders sharing similar philosophies on economic development.

We were honored to be a part of such a giant project that would benefit all mankind. The supercollider project would have helped to uncover new knowledge of high energy. The new knowledge that could have been gained from the supercollider project could have an impact the future of technology and society that would take us into the 21st century. We were excited about the potential this project had for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as well as the Mississippi Choctaws.

As principal chief, I feel it is my duty to report to the citizens my concerns of the voting record of our Oklahoma House of Representatives in Washington, D.C. regarding the supercollider project. Our people should be aware that we as Indian people are now always represented fairly or in our best interest.

As you are aware, the state of Oklahoma is in recession and with little future hope of economic development for anyone much less our people. This has been proven over and over with the statistics of unemployment in this state. Minority hiring by state government reflects that our people represent less than three percent employment.

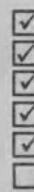
I ask you to contact our senators and congressmen to support our project. We as American citizens and tribal members necessitate respect that other voters are given (not only at election time); I appreciate your assistance in contacting all officials concerning this matter.

Clarification

The page 12 photograph in the June edition of *The Muscogee Nation News* should have identified the pastor of Snake Creek Baptist Church as Rev. Boots Fixico. The keynote speaker for the Creek Council House Museum rededication was Dr. Donald Fixico.

How They Voted

The House votes to kill the superconducting supercollider. Synar did not vote.



Letters to the editor

Citizen thankful for education

Editor:

I would like to sincerely thank everyone involved in my getting the opportunity to further my education at Wes Watkins Area Vo-Tech at Wetumka.

It would not have been possible for me had it not been for tribal help and support.

This experience has given me new hope of finding a secure place in the field of x-ray technology and new found self confidence in being able to support my family and supply them with the basic needs and possibly a few luxuries.

It has been an experience I will never forget and an opportunity that I am deeply grateful for.

I would like to acknowledge the heritage of my grandmother, Ella M. Jackson, without whom I would not have been eligible for this educational opportunity in the first place. I am proud of my Indian heritage and all the advantages the Creek Nation has helped me and my family afford.

I hope that many other Native Americans will take advantage of the tribal opportunities that will help them to acquire a better quality of life and a higher standard of living.

Again, thank you so much.

Doris Hamilton, Holdenville

Speaker Cloud reflects on service

Editor:

I am writing to express my appreciation to all Creek citizens for the privilege of serving you on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council this last term as your speaker.

My service to the Creek Nation started many years ago when there was only two employees — former Principal Chief Claude Cox and Dee Sloan. Since then, the Creek Nation has become more and more progressive — we now have over 400 employees, and are the largest employer in Okmulgee County. We are also a leader in Indian bingo enterprises.

Through our revenues, we are providing educational opportunities and jobs for our people. With education a priority we are now raising the standard of living of our people.

Again, thank you for your support — as I have served on the National Council, the tribal housing

Legal Notice

In the matter regarding Amber Rae Buckley, this notice by publication is to Billy Ray Buckley, father of Amber Rae Buckley. You are hereby notified that an adjudication hearing as to said child has been set in the above styled and numbered cause for 1 p.m. on the 16th day of August, 1993, before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore, District Judge, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at which time you are directed to appear on said date at said time.

commission board and as a tribal Supreme Court justice.

I have felt honored to be of service to my people.
Sincerely,

Clarence Cloud, Bristow

Administrator thanks supporters

Editor:

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration women's softball team wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude to the following day care centers for their generous donations and contributions in sponsoring our team in the 19th Annual Creek Nation Festival and Rodeo: Haskell Day Care, Rita Breshears, director; Playland Day Care, Bixby, Freda Poe and Ava Grimes, directors; and Kids Korner, Okmulgee, Denise Maynard, director.

Scott Johnson, MNCFSA manager, coaches, team members, and staff, Okmulgee

Medicine man praised for healing

Editor:

Last January my husband had a strange rash appear on his face, neck, chest, and back. We tried to treat it with everything we could think of; it only got worse. Finally, by April, we went to a dermatologist for help. We were desperate; my husband was suffering so. In the meantime, my son-in-law had read about David Lewis in *The Muscogee Nation News* and called him. David came to see my husband and gave him medicine to drink. Within four days, the scales, pus, and scabs had begun to slough off. Even though he still has some small amount of rash left on his neck, face, and scalp, the horrendous sores are gone. His chest and back are clear.

From the earth our Creator gave us natural things to assist us in healing and through medicine men such as David Lewis it is possible. He has been enabled to help people like my husband. Your people must not lose this knowledge and the blessings of medicine men like David.

Mrs. H. Craig Platt, Dewey

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal administration. Published monthly at the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee, *The Muscogee Nation News* is free to all enrolled citizens' households upon proof of tribal enrollment. For all others, the subscription rate is \$12 annually.

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Inquiries should be addressed to The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Bill Fife, principal chief
Shelly Crow, second chief

Council funds statues for two Creek warriors

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Two legendary Muscogee warriors will be honored thanks to the actions of the National Council during its regular meeting on Saturday, June 26.

Retired Lt. Col. Ernest Childers, a congressional medal award recipient and historic leader Opothleyahola will be honored with statues in two separate locations funded by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

The Ernest Childers commemorative project was established by the Broken Arrow Rotary Foundation to erect a permanent statue honoring the Creek citizen for his military honors during World War II. The statue is to be created by noted Indian artist and sculptor Allen Houser and erected in Broken Arrow.

The council authorized \$15,000 from the dissolution of the Creek Nation construction account. The donation will complete the project.

Childers received the Purple Heart, American Defense Service medal, WWII victory medal, Oklahoma distinguished service cross, national defense service medal, combat infantryman badge, American campaign medal, Army of Occupation medal, middle East campaign medal and the Italian Cross of Valor.

September 22, 1993 will mark 50 years since he undertook actions that earned him the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Opothleyahola will become the first Muscogee (Creek) inducted among the present 35 Hall of Fame

inductees at the site in Anadarko.

The council authorized \$5,000 for the bust of Opothleyahola for the Hall of Fame. A duplicate sculpture will be made for display within the Creek Nation, as designated by the council.

Opothleyahola's induction into the National Indian Hall of Fame will be August 22 in Anadarko.

Opothleyahola opposed the ceding of lands to the United States in 1820, rose in the council to town chief, proposed the law against selling tribal lands, ordered the execution of William McIntosh for signing the Treaty of Indian Springs in 1825, negotiated for the Treaty of Washington for the tribe to remain in Alabama.

When the United States violated the Treaty of Washington and forced the Creeks to move to the Indian Territory, Opothleyahola led his people to the Indian territory.

He died in Kansas at the Battle of Hominy Falls against the Confederate army when the Union forces failed to support his group. He did lead his forces to two earlier victories against the southern forces before Hominy Falls.

Principal Chief Bill Fife said Opothleyahola's presence is felt today "as our Nation attempts to find alternatives to removal, and as our people are forcibly removed in direct violation of their treaties."

In other council items, Chief Fife sent back to the council with a veto a bill that would have allowed the City of Muskogee to annex the land where the Bingo

hall is located.

Chief Fife told the council Muskogee has no legal authority to annex Muscogee tribal trust lands.

Fife said the annexation could have put the bingo hall "in jeopardy of attempted taxation by the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

The Chief urged a negotiation settlement for city services to the bingo hall, which was later agreed upon by the City council of Muskogee.

The council also authorized the Principal Chief to enter into negotiations with the City of Tulsa on the Riverside Parkway extension project, which would enhance traffic flow to the Tulsa bingo hall.

The council also:

- allocated funds to renovate the Yardeka community center for a nutrition site;

- re-appointed Joe Johnson to the Creek Nation Supreme Court until July 1, 1999;

- confirmed Samuel S. Alexander to serve as tax commissioner;

- sent back to committee an authorization to Arledge and Associates to conduct the annual audit;

- authorized expenditures from the Citizenship Board replacement fund to purchase a camera for photo tribal membership cards;

- re-authorized emergency home improvement funds of \$25,000 to Creek citizens who meet income guidelines;

please see COUNCIL..., page 20

Creeks, Choctaws host 4-H youth workshop near Dustin

by Noah Long

DUSTIN — Young people from two tribal nations gathered at the Muscogee (Creek) Agri-Business farm to learn first hand the opportunities available in agriculture.

Sponsored by the Muscogee and Choctaw Nations, the seminar featured vocational agriculture instructors and Dustin area farmers and ranchers who explained the steps and knowledge needed for a successful livestock venture.

Eighty-nine 4-H and FFA members from the two tribal nations attended the seminar. Among those leading the workshop was Dusty Smallwood of the Bennington Public Schools vo-ag department who talked about the importance of care and selection of a swine project.

David Sorrell, Bryan County 4-H Club Extension Agent, presented the workshop on sheep. He was assisted by two Bryan County 4-H members. The highlight of the presentation was a demonstration of showmanship with the 4-H members and their show lambs.

Stretch May of the Longview Ranch in Dustin explained the beef industry, and Charles Sparks of Sparks Limousin and Quarter Horses, also in Dustin, lectured on the beef and horse industry. He was assisted by his son Charlie who used a Limousin show heifer for a demonstration on showmanship.

Curtis McDaniel, Idabel, critiqued the heifer using the terms that livestock judges use during a livestock

show. The final presentation was a horse showmanship demonstration by Robin Cooper, Creek Nation 4-H Extension agent.

Coordinating the event were Cooper, Creek Nation 4-H agent and Tommie James, Choctaw Nation program director. Also helping out were Harry Villanueva and Barbara Gillispie, Creek Nation assistants, along with Judy Needham, Griff Servati and Brad Bain, Choctaw Nation assistants.

Providing support were Wilson Bear of the Creek National Council, Joe July of Checotah and Farm Board members Cleo Robison and Darrill Howell.

The Choctaw Nation provided the lunch while donations for the event and for door prizes were accepted from Charles Henry of Tri County Feed and



Presenting a live demonstration on showing sheep is David Sorrell, Bryan County 4-H Agent, during the Muscogee and Choctaw Nation's livestock workshop.

Seed of Dustin, Richard Chastain of Wetumka, Huckabee Feed and Supply of Morris, Shawn Davis of Bluebonnet Feeds, Trail's End of Durant, Antlers Agri Supply and the Bryan County Agri Supply in Durant.

Creek graduates

Leigh Anne Downing

CALVIN — Leigh Anne Downing graduated from Calvin High School as valedictorian of her class on May 21.

Downing is the past Miss Muscogee Nation and was a finalist in the Oklahoma Indian oratory contest in 1990. She was also a member of the state honor society, the National Honor Society, and the Oklahoma Indian Honor Society.

Her future plans are to attend Oklahoma University to become a licensed pharmacist.



Downing

Heidi Freeman

JUNEAU, Alaska — Heidi Freeman was a member of the Juneau-Douglas High School drill team that won second place in the large school division. Her team also won a first place in the Prop category and they also received the Producer's Red Award for the most outstanding routine of all first place winners.

Freeman also competed in the solo competition where she placed 18th in dance, modeling and speech. She is the daughter of former Bristow residents Charles and Brenda Freeman and the granddaughter of Frank and Fern Freeman of Slick.

She plans to enroll at Simon-Fraser University in Vancouver, Colombia where she will also compete in track and major in biomedical engineer.

Jeremy Doc Snell

NORWALK, Calif. — Jeremy Doc Snell graduated from GAHR High School with a 3.2 grade-

point-average and as the male athlete of the year honor.

Snell was the kicker and punter for the football team, holding the mark for a 47-yard field goal. He also lettered in soccer and was named the most valuable defensive player and was selected All San Gabriel Valley league's second team and was team co-captain for two years. He also lettered in volleyball where he was MVP in 1992 and help lead the team to an undefeated season this past year. He will attend Biola University in August on a four-year academic and athletic scholarship. He is the son of Gerald and Sharon Snell, great grandson of Lula E. Newberry of Oktaha and great-great-grandson of Jeanetta Sizemore Newberry of Oktaha.



Snell

Quannah Gee

HOUSTON, Texas — Quannah Gee, a Creek-Navajo, graduated from Rice University with a BA in anthropology.

Gee is a 1988 graduate of Okmulgee High School, where she graduated as the class salutatorian.

She is the daughter of Bill and Esterlene Gee of Okmulgee and the granddaughter of the late Roley and Freeda Buck of Wetumka and Benjamin and Elsie Gee of Low Mountain, Ariz.

She is employed by Rice University.



Gee

Education briefs

Creeks honored at Haskell

LAWRENCE, Kansas — Creek students attending Haskell Indian Junior College received several awards recently during the awards night program.

The Haskell United National Inter-Tribal Youth council, sponsored by Audrey Barnett, was also honored as the most active organization. Barnett, a former Creek Princess and Miss Indian Oklahoma, was honored as the outstanding sponsor.

Creek students receiving honors of academic scholarships included: Sutagee Anglin; Chelsea L. Dawes; and Chris Sugar.

Kendall Thompson and Sugar received Oklahoma Haskell Alumni Association awards, while Melinda Thompson and Anglin received the Lawrence, Kan. Haskell Alumni Association award.

The Thompsons were also honored with the outstanding resident citizenship award.

The UNITY council will also be featured in a video

produced by the Indian Health Service for AIDS awareness. Lisa Tiger will also be featured in the video, which will be shown at the national UNITY conference in Albuquerque, N.M.

Tribe, OSU begin training program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing Enterprises and Oklahoma State University—Okmulgee are establishing a training program to produce frontline machinists for the superconducting supercollider project. Applications are being accepted for trainees who meet the qualifications of the Job Training Partnership Act and OSU-Okmulgee entrance requirements. Interested applicants should contact the JTPA office at: (918) 756-8700, ext. 258 for more information. Applicants must be eligible for financial assistance and admission to OSU-Okmulgee. Priority will be given to Creek citizens.

Creek students excel

Travis Screechowl

SAPULPA — Travis Screechowl received second place in eight categories of photography at the Creek County Home Environment Show.

He placed second in outstanding photo series of people in action, different subject, story series, news story and the three best individual categories.

He also received a blue ribbon in advanced wood-work with a cedar box turkey call.

Having just completed his sophomore year at Sapulpa High School, Screechowl is known for his artwork of animals and Indian subjects.

He won first place honors at the 1992 Collinsville Tri-County Fair with his postal collection of over 100 Indians of Oklahoma postmark cancellations. He also made the covers of his display with wood burning and leather bindings.

Screechowl's goals are to attend Oklahoma University or a college in New Jersey and to get a job for comic books and continue his work in Indian art.

He is also talented in the making of bows, usually from pecan.

He is the son of Edward and Janice Factor Screenowl of Sapulpa.

Xaveria Thomas

TULSA — Xaveria Thomas, daughter of Rudy and Sharon Watashe Thomas of Tulsa, has been honored by the Indian participant of Education department for her achievements at Clinton Middle School.

Thomas was named to the principal's honor roll, was the January student of the month, president of the Red Cross, and had perfect attendance.

She was also crowned basketball queen.



Thomas

Melissa Watashe

SAPULPA — Melissa Elaine Watashe, 9 year old daughter of Allen R. and Janice Watashe, received several honors as a third grade student at Prettywater Elementary School.

She was on the principal's honor roll for the third year, received a scholarship for the Tulsa University science workshop, was the January student of the month, was outstanding in spelling, reading and won several awards in basketball for rebounding, one-on-one, lay-ups and post move.

Watashe also received the outstanding achievement award for her essay "What My Family Means to Me," from the Child Guidance Board contest. She won first place over 250 students.



Watashe

Creek Nation births

Kelsi Creek Beaver

BATON ROUGE, La. — Mr. and Mrs. Dane Beaver announce the birth of Kelsi Creek Beaver, born April 30, 1993. She weighed eight pounds and three ounces.

She is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vance D. Beaver of Kinder, La. and Mr. and Mrs. Rusty Rouillier of Gonzales, La.

Beaver has two sisters, Jade and Hollyn.

Samuel Dean Beaulieu
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.

— Samuel Dean Beaulieu Crofut was born May 25, to B. Don Crofut and Leslie Beaulieu May 25 at a Minneapolis hospital.

He weighed seven pounds and 11 ounces and was 19 inches in length at birth.

Crofut is a former assistant commissioner in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Public Gaming.

Bissonette family

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Several birthdays were celebrated for Creek citizens of the George J. and Anne J. McAlpine Bissonnette family.

Leanne-Marie Christian celebrated her fourth birthday Jan. 3. She is the daughter of Mrs. Toni-Marie Christian of Springfield, Mass.

March 11, Toni Marie Christian celebrated her 21st birthday with a surprise party. Anne J. Bissonnette celebrated her 69th birthday March 16.

Edmund Joseph Bissonnette celebrated his fifth birthday April 7 and George Bissnnette observed his 68th birthday April 11.

Justin Aron Walz celebrated his first birthday May 11 in the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fyher and aunt Sjerry of Westfield, Mass.



Beaver



Crofut



Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation wants to be role model for others

photo and story by Stephanie Berryhill

OKMULGEE — Hoping to be a role model for Mvskoke youth, 20-year-old Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marva Jackson believes she exemplifies the importance of being both culturally attuned and achieving an education.

Marva was honored with the Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation title in early June.

Marva was not raised in either a traditional Mvskoke ceremonial ground or church environment. Although she is three-fourths Creek, the traditional ceremonial aspect of Mvskoke culture was foreign to her until she began attending ceremonial ground dances two years ago.

"Everybody would tell me stories about [the ceremonial grounds] and I kept getting more interested," said the Bird Clan and Cussetah Tribal Town member.

During the last two years she has attended tribal ceremonial ground dances with her parents — Joe and Flora Jackson — and has developed an interest in ceremonial ground ways and teachings. Marva admits it was merely fun in the beginning, but not knowing anything about her culture inspired her to listen to traditional elders and leaders to learn. Marva has been shaking shells for one year and has been lead shell shaker for some stompdance leaders — an art which sometimes takes years of experience to learn.

Marva would like to see more youth involved in Mvskoke culture, realize the importance of respecting and listening to elders, and strive for an education, she said.

The third of five siblings — all girls — Marva is making a conscious effort to serve as a role model for her younger sisters also.

Not only did Marva feel she would be a good



Jackson

candidate, so did several other tribal citizens. The encouraging words of Mvskoke elders was the impetus to her making the decision to run for Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"A lot of the elders said a lot of encouraging words and told me I should run," Marva said.

Because the Northeastern State University junior is pursuing studies in marketing and has begun gaining a grasp on her cultural identity, she felt she could contend for the Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation title.

Marva is the granddaughter of the late Timmie and Louella Jackson and the late Melissa Wacoche Lindsey.

Harmon wins Indian theater's cutest baby photo contest

STILLWATER — One-year old Jordan Lee Harmon, daughter of Dave and Shonday Harmon of Stillwater, won first place in the Oklahoma Indian Theater and Dance Co.'s cutest baby photo contest.

She received a trophy and Pendleton baby blanket.

Muscogee (Creek) National council member Okema Randall of Broken Arrow, is the maternal grandmother.



Harmon

Reunions

Frances reunion set

EUFALA — The Seventh Annual Frances reunion will be Aug. 14 at the Artussee Indian Baptist Church in Eufala, beginning at 10 a.m. A pot luck lunch will be served at noon and everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. Games will be conducted during the day. For more information contact Anna King at 816-437-5953 or Martha Phillips at 816-689-7891.

Yardy-Starr families reunion set

DEWAR — The Yardy and Starr families reunion will be July 17 at the Dewar Indian Community Center beginning at 11 a.m. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and family photos.

In brief

Creek directs museum

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Tom Beaver has been appointed interim director of the Minnesota Museum of American Art.

Beaver is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) tribe, the Okmulgee District and Morris is listed as his hometown. He is the son of Louise and Ben N. Beaver.

Beaver will work with staff, trustees and the community to carry out the day-to-day operations until a permanent director is selected in six to 12 months.

Beaver is former director of public information, office of the associate provost and associate vice president for academic affairs at the University of Minnesota, an office principally concerned with minority affairs.

He also served as a special assistant to the assistant secretary of the Interior for Indian affairs during the Carter administration. He also has had a varied professional broadcasting background, most recently with WCCO-TV. He is host of First Americans Update, a weekly program of American Indian issues. He has also served a chair and vice chair of the Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission and as president of the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commission..

Author seeks Indian painters

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Robert Henkes of Kalamazoo is writing a book on "Native American Painters," to be published by McFarland & Company. Although Henkes has a list of several names, he is currently seeking additional names of painters to be included in the book. Names of painters should be sent to Henkes at 1124 Bretton Drive, Kalamazoo, Mich. 49006.

Tribal Town Census

WETUMKA — Kialegee Tribal Town is conducting a census to identify tribal town members and other cultural information. Kialegee received federal funding as a new tribe.

Kialegee officials said the membership identification and enrollment will not effect the citizenship status with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, headquartered in Okmulgee.

Other items to be identified in the census include number of tribal towns that existed upon arrival in present day Oklahoma; number of tribal town existing today; number of those participating in ceremonial grounds and related activities; number of those constitutions or other governing structures; number of active tribal towns and the number of grounds whose fires are out.

Kialegee members or those wanting more information should contact tribal offices at (405) 452-3413 or write P.O. Box 332, Wetumka, OK 74883.



Beaver

Second Chief Shelly Crow leads Congressional call-in on collider vote

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief Shelly Crow led a contingent of tribal employees and volunteers on a call-in and letter writing campaign to the U.S. House of Representatives urging funding in the federal budget for the super conducting super collider project near Waxahacie, Texas.

"The office of the Principal Chief has many challenges day to day," Crow said. "One of these challenges became apparent on the vote of the U.S. House of Representatives.

"We found out that morning (June 24) that they would vote on the super collider project."

Crow then organized several tribal employees and volunteers to begin making phone calls and sending facsimile transmission letters.

"We pulled together a staff to have input on the house," Crow said. "Over 200 phone calls were made directly to Congress and over 350 letters were typed and faxed by 10:30 p.m."

Crow said the effort was another example



Administrative assistant Gayla Waller, seated, Second Chief Shelly Crow, center, and finance secretary Wanda Froman contact Congressman about the super collider vote.

of how the administration staff was working to represent people in the U.S. capital.

"I want our citizens to know our staff is dedicated in representing you on a day-to-day basis even in Washington, D.C.," Crow said.

"We appreciate all of the people who worked to educate our representatives and senators."

Tribal secretaries receive training

OKMULGEE — Secretaries from the various departments at the Muscogee (Creek) National tribal headquarters received additional skills during a secretarial training workshop on June 22-23.

Conducted by the Diversified Management Services of Albuquerque, N.M., two eight-hour sessions were conducted on the campus of Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee.

A total of 37 secretaries took part in the training session that covered the topics of telephone skills, time management and stress reduction. The workshop was coordinated through Perry Anderson, personnel manager of the tribe.

Anderson said he was pleased with the program and with the number of secretaries participating.

Anderson said each department's develop-

ment fund covered the costs of the workshops.

Guiding the secretaries were instructors Laurie Donahoo and Dr. C. Michael Newman, both of Diversified Management Services.



Tribal secretaries attending class.

photo by Noah Long



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Nannie Scott's facial expression seems to sum up the essence of the tribal festival — laughter, fun, fellowship. Scott belongs to Greenleaf Ceremonial Ground.



photo by Noah Long

Festival would not be festival without the rain...and mud.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Second chief Shelly Crow meets California Creek Hal Brightcloud.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

The Mvskoke faces of Tulsa Creek Indian Community members W.J. Scott and granddaughter Lakota, appear to project happiness.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Baby seems to be lulled in the arms of mom as she takes in festival dancing.

celestial, festival faces, places...

...and it's not over yet

Terri McLyea, R.N., Sarah Kaler, R.N., and Amy Kaler, a future nurse, provide a health screening during the festival.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Creek Nation Housing Authority employee Melinda Deeringwater, and her daughter, Melissa, ride the CNHA float.



Photo by Noah Long



Tribal citizen Emma Rose Jacobs, Hickory Ground Ceremonial Ground member, shares a laugh and hug with principal chief Bill Fife.

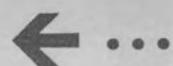
photo by Stephanie Berryhill



Okfuskee Indian Community youth ride atop their parade entry entitled "Teaching Our Children Our Creek Heritage."



photo by Gerald Wofford



Morris Indian Community, youth olympics champs, celebrate their victory and exhibit their ware to the parade spectators.

...faces,



photo by Stephanie Berryhill



photo by Noah Long

↑ • • Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo staff drive their Indian car — accented with a roll of toilet paper around the antennae — through the parade.

Diane Lowe, tribal election board manager, hands a balloon to a festival attendee as Tracey Lowe, Dicey Taryole, and Ruthie Burgess watch.



photo by Noah Long

places...



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

◀ • • Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby visits with Kialegee Tribal Town Administrator Raymond Johnson, after the parade.



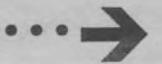
photo by Stephanie Berryhill

◀ • • Tulsa Indian Art Festival Princess Cherrah Ridge, 15, shields herself from the rain.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Esther Yargee, Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Pageant first runner-up, rides in the festival parade. The 16-year-old Butner High School student is a member of Sand Creek Ceremonial Ground.



Creek cultural culmination



Again, the Euchee Mission Boarding School Reunion attracted many to the festival. Among those attending were James Fife, class of 1914, and Dan Harjo, class of 1916.

photo by Noah Long



Sharpshooter Norma Barnett Pinney sets her sights in the bow competition.

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

photo by Stephanie Berryhill



Michael B. Berryhill speaks on the art of



Duck Creek, Greenleaf, Nuyaka, and Tallahassee ceremonial ground members participate in the friendship dance at the festival.

photo by Gerald Wofford



Nuyaka shell shaker Christine H between festival dancing to coo



primitive, southeastern long bow making.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Tallahassee Ceremonial Ground leader John Proctor and Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marva Jackson visit between festival dancing.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill



Tulsa Indian Art Festival Princess Cherrah Ridge was among many powwow contest winners.

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Trenton Baptist Church singers perform at the festival gospel singing.



photo by Jim Wolf

neha takes a break off.

More festival results

Bow Shooting

Compound Shoot — 1st Norma Pinney; 2nd. Thompson Gouge; 3rd Thompson Pinney.
Traditional Shoot - 1st. Thompson Gouge; 2nd. Dale Pinney; 3rd. Norma Pinney.

Rodeo Results

Calf Roping, Billy Webster, Winfield, Kan.; Saddle Bronc, Rome Wager, Smithville; Bull Riding, Eric Morrow, Marlow; Team Roping, Tarz Foreman, Oaks and Ben Foreman, Miami; Steer Wrestling, Howard Edmondson, Dewar; Bareback Riding, Wesley Janis, Mission, S.D.; Ladies Breakaway Roping, Carol Jackson, Window Rock, Ariz.; Barrel Racing, Marcella Mays, Pawhuska; Junior Steer Wrestling, Joe Hicks, Henryetta; Junior Barrel Racing, Brant Fisher, Wildcat Junction; Old Timers Competition, Rick Bemo, Tulsa.

Golf Results

Men's Championship Flight:
1. Richard Lambert, 2. Pat Carmichael; 3. Chub Guess, 4. Lou Mendoza, 5. Cecil Tiger.

A Flight: 1. Jerry Perry, 2. Bob Curtis, 3. Richard Belcher, 4. Frank Proctor, 5. Mike Freeman.

B Flight: 1. Tim Livesay, 2. Derrick Miegs, 3. Richard Henson, 4. Steve Shell, 5. Stan Hummingbird.

C Flight: 1. Johnny Perry, Paul Pitchett, Buddy Pappio, 4. Robert Curtis, Sr., 5. Sauce July.

Senior Men's: 1. Robert Sanders, 2. Cliff Birdshead, 3. Joe Sanders, 4. Truman Kaskuske, 5. Dan Amos.

Women's Championship:

1. Judy Mann, 2. Shirley Walters, 3. Rita Anderson.

Closest To Pin: ladies, Pat Bartmess; men's Gary Pewardy; senior's, Jim Bittle.

Longest Drive: Ladies, Norma Birdshead; men's, Lou Mendoza; senior's Jim Thompson.

Parade Results

Float division

1. Okfuskee Indian Community, "Teaching Our Children Our Creek Heritage"
2. Tulsa Indian Community, "Preserving Our Culture for the Future"
3. Creek Nation Housing Authority of Oklahoma

Best Indian Car — Creek Nation's Tulsa Bingo

Runner-up — Okmulgee Indian Community Olympic Team



Festival rodeo bronc rider.



Council representative Harvey Gilroy and Jackson.

Principal chief Bill Fife, Junior Miss Indian Tulsa Tracie Reavis, Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marva Jackson and second chief Shelly Crow.

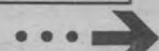


photo by Noah Long



photo by Noah Long

Indian children appear to be enthralled with a bull behind the scenes.



ISSUE

Festival olympic results

OKMULGEE—Morris Indian Community took top honors in the largest ever Creek Nation Festival summer youth olympics, said Henry Harjo, coordinator.

"This year's summer olympics had 710 boys and girls from six to 15 years old participating in 37 different running, jumping and throwing events," Harjo said. "This year's junior olympics was the biggest that Creek Nation has seen. We had 24 communities, including three tribes — Muscogee-Creek, Sac and Fox, and the Seminoles."

Following Morris in the point total was Okmulgee Indian Community; Okfuskee took third place.

Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marva Jackson presented the gold, silver, and bronze medals to the winners. A total of 176 medals were presented. The olympics opened with a prayer by David Lewis, and was followed by speakers Thomas Berryhill, Lewis, Kenneth Moore, second chief Shelly Crow and Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Harjo said "the most inspiring and heart warming message to the people, parents, and grandparents was delivered by the main medicine man of the Creek tribe, David Lewis Jr."

Tribal citizen Jenna Boyce of Morris ended the opening ceremonies with a song. Rain prevented the completion of the olympics. However, only the boys 6 and 7-year-old 50-yard dash and the relay events were not completed.

"The employees were more than helpful by giving their time and effort to make this year's junior olympics a success," Harjo said.

Olympics winners

50-yard dash 6-7

Boys: No runners;

girls: 1. Jackie Morrow, Okmulgee; 2. Marion Beaver, Okmulgee; 3. Tara Beaver, Okmulgee.

8-9 Boys - 1. Joseph Bales, Morris; 2. Chad Morrow, Okmulgee; 3. Ricky Bigner, Koweta.

8-9 Girls - 1. Jessica Harjo, Dustin; 2. Tamara Hill, Bristow; 3. Amber Bible, Koweta.

10-11 Boys - 1. Kadesh King, Wilson; 2. Jeff Francis, Checotah; 3. Cody Bible, Okmulgee.

10-11 Girls - 1. Crystal Chisel, Okmulgee; 2. Lela Isham, Holdenville; 3. Tia Brown, Shawnee.

100 Meters 6-7 Boys - 1. Matt Pacer, Okemah; 2. Paul Lome, Wetumka; 3. Grayhawk King, Wilson.

6-7 Girls - 1. Tara Beaver, Okmulgee; 2. Jackie Morrow, Okmulgee; 3. Marion Beaver, Okmulgee.

8-9 Boys - 1. Toby Hill, Bristow; 2. Jesse Bible, Morris; 3. Opothle Yahola, Wetumka.

8-9 Girls - 1. Tamara Hill, Bristow; 2. Sonya Buck, Kialegee; 3. Dalisa Conway, Koweta.

10-11 Boys - 1. Matt Kalor, Dustin; 2. Roland Roberts, Wetumka; 3. Jermey Monorne, Okmulgee.

10-11 Girls - 1. Tia Brown, Shawnee; 2. Amber Roalink, Bristow; 3. Cyrstal

Please see OLYMPICS..., page 17

Suzy Hunt, Norman, crosses the finish line.

photo by Jim Wolfe

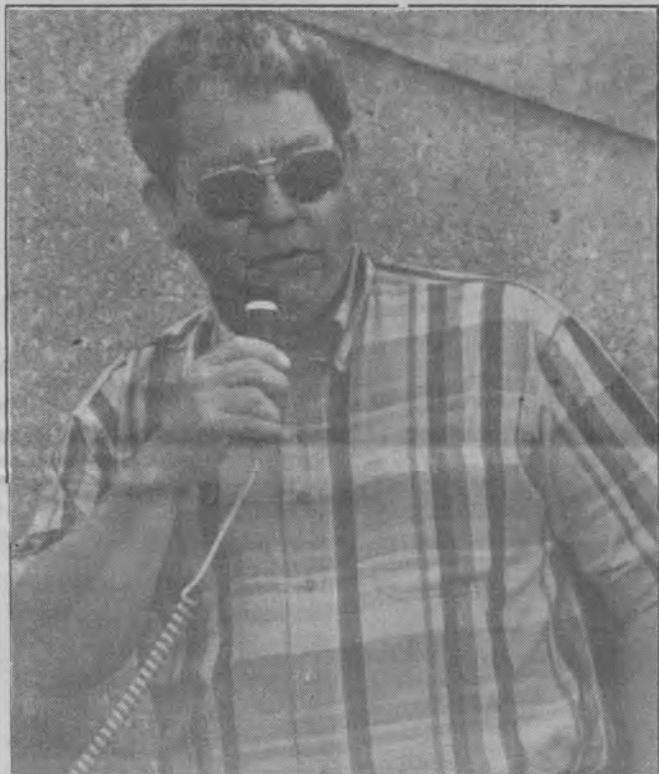


photo by Jim Wolfe

Principal chief Bill Fife



photo by Jim Wolfe



Mark Woommavorah, Norman, relaxes after posting the best overall time in the festival five kilometer run.



Despite the rain, these little Olympians race to the finish line in the 40 yard dash preliminary heats.

photo by Jim Wolfe



photo by Jim Wolfe



photo by Jim Wolfe



photo by Jim Wolfe



photo by Jim Wolfe



photo by Gerald Wofford



photo by Jim Wolfe

Festival softball, volleyball, and other results announced

Results of the events that went on as scheduled include the following:

Tennis
men's open doubles — Scott Johnson and Paul McCrary def. Ray Alford and Semore Tiger, 6-3, 6-4;

mixed doubles — Scott Johnson and Tasha Morgan def. Ruth Harjo and Jennifer



Paul Harjo

Harjo, 6-3, 6-4;
men's 35 singles — Paul Harjo def. Loy Thomas 6-3, 6-4;
women's open doubles — Tasha Morgan and Tawny Taylor def. Vickie Tate and DeeAnn Lamebull 6-3, 6-3;
boys 18 singles — Matt Tiger def. Eli Hawzipta 6-3, 6-0;
girls 18 singles — Tasha Morgan def. Yahnah Patrick 6-1, 6-0;
women's intermediate singles — Vickie Tate def. Yahnah Patrick 6-3, 7-5;
women's open singles — Tasha Morgan def. DeeAnn Lamebull 6-1, 6-0;
men's intermediate singles — Ted Ganote def. Kevin Ganote 6-4, 4-6, 6-2;
men's intermediate singles consolation —

Garry Ringlero def. Robert Karty 4-6, 6-4, 6-4;
men's open singles — Semore Tiger def. Scott Johnson 6-4, 6-0;
men's open singles consolation — Ray Alford def. Gary Canard 6-2, 6-4;

Elderly Games

Domino Tournament: 1st, Jonas Dunson and Sam Yargee; 2nd, Sock Buck and Lloyd Lowe. Bingo: Several individual winners of prizes.

Women's softball

Three teams eliminated (Creek, Red Circle and Lady Warriors), 15 teams still alive. Play will resume Aug. 7 with same bracket

schedule.

Volleyball

1st, Kansas All Tribes; 2nd, Top Daug of Andarko; 3rd, Super Six of Okmulgee; 4th, Play To Win, Tulsa.

Women's most valuable players were: Carlema Spice, All Tribes; and Stacy King, Top Daug. Men's most valuable players were: Willie Senely, All Tribes; and Eli Williams, Top Daug.

Identified clockwise beginning in upper left are: Dwight Immohotchy, Ada; Kevin Ganote, Tulsa; George Smith, Hulbert; Letta James, Shawnee; Yardeka volleyball player; and Joe Manley, McLoud.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

JACK BIGHEAD

PARKER Ariz. — Funeral services for Jack Bighead were held May 1 at the Parker United Methodist Church. Bighead, a Sapulpa native, died April 23, of cancer.

Bighead was born on April 23, 1930 in the Sapulpa area. He graduated from Pepperdine University in 1948 after earning Little All-America honors in football and track. He was installed in the Pepperdine Hall of Fame. After serving in the Navy, Bighead played two years in the National Football League with the Baltimore Colts in 1954 and the Los Angeles Rams in 1955. He joined the teaching staff of the Anaheim Union High School District in 1957, teaching and coaching at Western and Magnolia. He joined the Katella faculty when it opened in 1966 and coached track before retiring in 1987. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Joan Odiorne Bighead, La Paz County Supervisor, his daughters, Diane Bighead-Clark of Fountain Valley, Calif., and Jacqueline Bighead-Barney of Fullerton, Calif.; his son-in-law Patrick Clark and grandsons Casey and Jackson Clark. Also surviving are first cousins, Maxine Barnett and Josephine Bigler, both of Sapulpa.

Following funeral services, a celebration of his life was conducted at the family home on the Colorado River. Recorded Native hymns sung by members of the Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church were played as his ashes were scattered in the river.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory should be made to his home church, Pickett Chapel Indian United Methodist Church, in care of Dennis Barnett, Route 1, Box 323-B, Sapulpa, OK 74066. The church has already received several contributions from the Los Angeles and Parker,

Ariz. areas.

REV. ANDREW ALBERT

WETUMKA — Funeral services for the Rev. Andrew Albert were held June 22 at the Thlophlocco United Methodist Church.

Rev. Albert was born Oct. 6, 1918 near Wetumka to Jackson Albert and Logee Hilly Albert. He died on June 19 at his home in Wetumka.

He was reared in the Wetumka area, attending the Mingo grade school and Wetumka High School. He entered the ministry in the 1950's beginning at the Thlophlocco church. Following his ordination he pastored several Indian Methodist churches throughout the state. He took an early retirement in the 1970's because of ill health. He was a member of the Yeager Mission United Methodist Church.

Survivors include: a brother, Edward Scott of Wetumka; two nephews, David R. Barnett and Daniel J. Barnett, both of Baton Rouge, La.; a brother-in-law David O. Barnett of Baker, La.; cousins Maxine Harjo of Wetumka and Anna Spainard of Okmulgee; along with several relatives and friends.

Rev. Earl Dunson of Glenpool officiated and pallbearers were friends and relatives. Burial was in the Thlophlocco cemetery under the direction of the Williamson Funeral Home of Wetumka.

JAMES D. McQUARIE

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Funeral services for James D. McQuarie were held on Feb. 18, 1993 in the French Mortuary Chapel with Ralph Dial officiating. He died Feb. 15.

McQuarie was the son of the late Ray Lee

All quartets, choirs, and trios are welcome. The master of ceremonies will be Eastman Factor.

To get to the church from Holdenville drive three miles north on state highway 48, two miles east, and one-half of a mile south.

Arbeka holding gospel singing

CROMWELL — Arbeka United Indian Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing at 7 p.m., Aug. 7.

The master of ceremonies will be Robert Jones.

From Interstate 40 take the Wewoka exit north and drive four miles to the Okfuskee-Seminole county line. Drive north one mile and west one-quarter of a mile. The church is located on the north side of the road.

Submit religious news to: The Muscogee Nation News, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

McQuarie of Broken Arrow:

Surviving are his wife Patsy of Albuquerque, a son Arthur Allyn McQuarie of San Diego, Calif., three grandsons, three granddaughters, four great granddaughters; sister-in-law Marie McQuarie of Santa Fe, N.M.; brother-in-law and sister-in-law Kenny and Carol Simonton of Belen and Herbert I. and Bea Simonton of San Angelo, Texas.

McQuarie was retired from the Teamsters, was a member of the American Legion Post 13 and the Highland Baptist Church.

Pallbearers were Ernie Ford, Alfred Dial, John Tonne, Bob Bryant, John Sedillo and Hector Shevere. Honorary bearers were his many friends at Yellow Freight Systems. Burial was in the National Cemetery, Santa Fe, N.M.

CELIA MAY PITTMAN CAMPBELL

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Celia would have been 101 years old on Dec. 29, 1992, but her mind and soul were that of a much younger person.

She was born in Checotah, Indian Territory to Edwin and Jennie (Doyle) Pittman. She and her husband moved to Colorado in 1916 by covered wagon. A journey to a difficult life that would test her courage.

Grandma, we miss you as you make your journey down the spirit road... "puyvfe'kvnenne to hute in sutv."

We want to thank you for teaching us of our Creek heritage and want you to know that not only will we honor it...we honor you and your courage.

Thank you for sharing your love, your life, your wisdom, and your wit.



In brief

Inhalants abuse symposium

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration Youth and Family Program has scheduled an inhalants abuse symposium Aug. 5.

Irene Culley, youth and family program counselor, has planned the symposium with the assistance of Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marva Jackson.

As Jackson feels she should be a role model for Muskogee youth, she was compelled to become involved in coordinating the symposium, she said. Jackson feels that taking an active position against substance abuse will help have an impact on the physical well-being of Creek youth.

The symposium will be held in the tribal independent agencies (mound) building auditorium, located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56. For more information, contact Culley toll-free at 1 (800) 521-5432 or (918) 756-2112.

Religious briefs

Okmulgee First Indian homecoming

OKMULGEE — The First Indian Baptist Church of Okmulgee will celebrate its 18th year as a church with a "homecoming" July 11. The church is located at 320 N. Mission.

The church was organized on July 6, 1975 and dedicated on Oct. 2, 1977. Rev. Jonas Dyson was the church's first pastor.

Homecoming activities will include a dedication at 2 p.m., and unveiling of the new church name, "Belvin Baptist Church" at 3 p.m. and refreshments at 4 p.m. A missionary hour will start at 7 p.m.

Everyone is invited to attend the homecoming said pastor Rev. John Buckner.

Pecan Grove slates fundraising singing

HOLDENVILLE — Pecan Grove Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing at 7 p.m., July 24.

Proceeds from the singing will be used for its building fundraising campaign.

Creeks instrumental in developing cancer support group

OKMULGEE — They talk with still quiet voices. Each one speaks of pain, anguish, frustration, and the struggle of day-to-day living with cancer as others listen and nod their heads knowingly.

For this group of cancer patients, the gathering is a reaffirmation of a commitment to live. Just talking about life as a cancer patient seems to be therapeutic.

Before the summer, local cancer patients had to travel to Muskogee or Tulsa to find a support group, but because of the efforts of a Creek citizen and a Creek church, Okmulgee has a cancer support group.

This support group was formed when Mona Barnett, herself diagnosed with breast cancer, saw the need and began working to meet it.

"I wanted to have a supportive caring atmosphere for people who have been diagnosed with cancer to meet," Barnett said.

"Lives are turned upside down when people are diagnosed with cancer."

Newtown United Methodist Church pastor Sammy Chupco learned that some members of his congregation had been diagnosed with cancer. Chupco was also trying to develop a mission outreach program into the community that could meet a specific need.

Barnett, a member of Okmulgee First Indian Baptist, wrote the proposal for the group and Chupco embraced the idea.

"I want to learn how to minister to cancer patients," Chupco said. "This group allows me to learn about the disease."

The American Cancer Society legitimizes the group. Barnett said the cancer society provides support materials, including videos, that are used by the group. She also attended a society-sponsored seminar for support group facilitators.

The format is basically the same as that of other support groups. Healthy food, prepared specifically for cancer patients, is also served. The group however, feeds on the comfort that can only be provided from others who have similar experiences.

Each participant makes an introduction and then tells of his or her respective story about life with

Basic facts about cancer

What is cancer?

Cancer is a group of diseases characterized by uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells. If the spread is not controlled, it can result in death.

Who gets cancer?

Anyone. Since incidence rises with age, most cases affect adults in mid-life or older. Among children ages 1-14, cancer causes more deaths in the U.S. than any other disease.

How many people alive today will get cancer?

About one in three, according to present rates, or about 85 million Americans now living will eventually get cancer.

How many new cases will there be this year?

In 1993, about 1,170,000 new cancer cases will be diagnosed. This does not include skin cancers — estimated to be 700,000 cases annually.

— American Cancer Society

Desire to help others inspires Barnett

OKMULGEE — Courage is the quality of mind or spirit that enables one to face difficulty with firmness and without fear.

Webster's defines courage. It is manifest however, in Mona Barnett.

It has been over a year since Barnett learned she had breast cancer.

She was told to get her affairs in order and to be certain that everything is in its proper place. In short, Barnett was to get ready to die.

In that time, Barnett has undergone chemotherapy and a mastectomy.

Most importantly, says Barnett, she has a more defined sense of purpose.

"I will do anything I can to help other people," Barnett said. "I want to help because I care for people."

That a single parent, afflicted with breast cancer, with five children living at home, would think of helping others seems out of character in a society that is pre-occupied with self.

Barnett however, wanted to give emotional and spiritual support to other cancer patients and especially, their loved ones.

"Lives are turned upside down when cancer is diagnosed," Barnett said. "Your family changes and life itself is different."

For Barnett, her daughter, Early Dawn Nimsey, gave her support.

"My daughter helped me make it," Barnett said. "She missed 35 days of school

cancer.

"Talking and helping one another is what this group is about," Barnett said. "We let our feelings out. There is a lot of crying and hugging."

For Barnett, getting together with other cancer survivors provides emotional release, enhances self-esteem, and allows her to draw strength from others.

For many, the group is the only opportunity for support.

Family members of cancer patients are unprepared to deal with the disruption and many of the group members tell of spouses who remain in denial about cancer even after treatment has begun.

Treatment seems to be worse than the cancer itself. Chemotherapy is the injection of chemicals that are supposed to be toxic to the cancer. Barnett calls chemotherapy poison. Some of the side affects are hair loss, vomiting, dizziness, and disorientation.

"It's a shock," Barnett said. "After chemotherapy, I would vomit for three days and go seven days without eating. Everything in your system is burned. I lost my hair, fingernails, and toenails."

Often, family members and friends are unable to cope with the physical changes that occur after



during the second semester of her senior year. She was going through what I was going through. It was hard on her."

Nimsey, a 1992 Okmulgee High School graduate, is now enrolled in the nursing program at Northeastern State University, Tahlequah.

Though Barnett's life has stabilized after being diagnosed with cancer, she admits that some days are much more difficult than others.

"I take it one day at a time and I deal with it as I go," Barnett said. "I'm a fighter and I don't let it get me down. Life is really short. I realize that little things are important."

chemotherapy.

Barnett would like to see more cancer patient family members and friends participate.

"I would like to start something for families who are affected by cancer," Barnett said.

"These people need to know how to provide emotional support and come to terms with their own emotions. They tell you it's all right and everything is okay, but it's not okay."

The members of this particular group have something else in common besides cancer — a renewed dedication to live life to its fullest.

Barnett echoed the sentiments of other group members when she speaks of perspective.

"I've learned that life is really short," Barnett said. "Yes, we have good days and bad days, but I'm living life one day at a time and I deal with this as I go. [But] I'm a fighter and I don't let it get me down."

The cancer group meets the third Tuesday of each month. For more information, contact Barnett at (918) 756-6211 or Mary Ann Kane at (918) 756-8700. Chupco can be contacted at Newtown United Methodist Church, (918) 756-8719.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

The Okmulgee elderly nutrition program honored the following fathers during its fathers' day program and dinner June 17: oldest father Roosevelt Deerisaw of Okmulgee, 85; youngest father Willie Randall of Preston, 62; and Ben Harjo, Ryal father of eight.



photo by Gerald Wofford

Glenpool Pawn Inc., donated a wheelchair to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation recently. Accepting the chair were, from left to right, principal chief Bill Fife, Lucille Factor, and David James, manager of the tribal housing authority's Okmulgee's elderly apartment complex.



Jonas Dunson, Thlophlocco United Methodist Church member, visits Honey Creek United Methodist Women Pauline Pakoska Billy and Peggy Sunny Chalakee after purchasing tvklik tokse. The Honey Creek UMW sold traditional Mvskoke food to festival attendees.



Tribal and Bureau of Indian Affairs officials met at the Creek Nation tribal capitol complex recently to make arrangements for the transition to self governance. Pictured from left to right are: Jack Chaney, BIA; Owen Sapulpa finance director; Merritt Youngdeer, BIA; Bill Fife, principal chief; Shelly Crow, second chief; Ed Mouss health director; Scott Johnson, children and family services; Bill Sinclair, BIA; Jimmy Gibson, BIA; and Eddie Lagrone, policy analyst.

Largest turnout ever for festival olympics

continued from page 13

Chisolm, Okmulgee.

12-13 Boys - 1. Larry Noble, Koweta; 2. Charles Rice, Morris; 3. Wesley Dunn, Morris.

12-13 Girls - 1. Stacy Juneau, Cushing; 2. Laura Denny, Cushing; 3. Tara Sutherland, Eufaula.

14-15 Boys - 1. Tyson Bracey, Morris; 2. Billy Jack, Yardeka; 3. Josh Gambler, Yardeka.

14-15 Girls - 1. Melissa Tiger, Okfuskee; 2. Stella Wright, Okemah; 3. Latoya Clark, Okmulgee.

200 Meters

6-7 Boys - 1. Lewis Lonway, Koweta; 2. Pacer Lowe, Wetumka; 3. Tar Weaver, Eufaula.

6-7 Girls - Sunni Grant, Shawnee; 2. Carrie Underwood, Wetumka; 3. Monica Montavo, Eufaula.

8-9 Boys - 1. Jeremy Monowee, Okmulgee; 2. Clinton Hicks, Sapulpa; 3. Phillip Marino, Glenpool.

8-9 Girls - 1. Tamara Hill, Bristow; 2. Sonya Buck, Kilegee; 3. Dalisa Conway, Koweta.

10-11 Boys - 1. Kevin Harjo, Wetumka; 2. Josh Ishmal, Okemah; 3. Adam Star, Okmulgee.

10-11 Girls - 1. Sarah Simmons, Bristow; 2. Stephanie Downing, Eufaula; 3. Jamie Fredrick, Eufaula.

12-13 Boys - 1. Austin Jones, Okfuskee; 2. Larry Noble, Koweta; 3. Charles Rice, Morris.

12-13 Girls - 1. Vangela Tilley, Glenpool; 2. Kanawa Thompson, Eufaula; 3. Teri Sutherland, Eufaula.

14-15 Boys - 1. Tyree Bracey, Morris; 2. Seth McIntosh, Koweta; 3. Josh Gambler, Yardeka.

14-15 Girls - 1. Stella White, Okemah; 2. Melissa Tiger, Okfuskee; 3. Latoya Clark, Okmulgee.

400 Meters

8-9 Boys - 1. Nathan Gray, Okfuskee; 2. Ian Phucka, Sac & Fox; 3. Martin Wind, Sac & Fox.

8-9 Girls - 1. Isha Thompson, Glenpool; 2. Shalew Bush, Koweta; 3. Paula Wesley, Glenpool.

10-11 Boys - 1. Roland Roberts, Wetumka; 2. Boone Watson, Okemah; 3. Dewey Horse, Bristow.

10-11 Girls - 1. Jamie Fredrick, Eufaula; 2. Jeri Culley, Okfuskee; 3. Sabrina Hill, Bristow.

12-13 Boys - 1. Austin Jones, Okfuskee; 2. Larry Noble, Koweta; 3. Aaron Burgess, Okmulgee.

12-13 Girls - 1. Larita Franklin, Cushing; 2. Stacy Totteress, Morris; 3. Tracy Juneau, Cushing.

14-15 Boys - 1. Tyson Braley, Morris; 2. Hyatt Washington, Morris; 3. Sammy Rowe, Bristow.

14-15 Girls - 1. Jeanetta West, Sapulpa; 2. Kristen Childers, Glenpool; 3. Beth Pickering, Sapulpa.

800 Meters

12-13 Boys - 1. Austin Jones, Okfuskee; 2. Brian Worth, Checotah; 3. Jeremy Tiger, Eufaula.

12-13 Girls - 1. Larita Franklin, Cushing; 2. Tracy Juneau, Cushing; 3. Stacy Juneau, Cushing.

14-15 Boys - 1. Billy Jack, Yardeka; 2. Harold Fox, Morris; 3. Matt Cummings, Eufaula.

14-15 Girls - 1. Sarah Camp, Shawnee.

Softball Throw

6-7 Boys - 1. Chance Beasley, Morris; 2. Josiah Proctor, Yardeka; 3. Steven Horse, Bristow.

6-7 Girls - 1. Kerri Undersood, Wetumka; 2. Joanie Artusse, Morris; 3. Andrea Burgett, Bristow

.8-9 Boys - 1. Ophie Yahola, Wetumka; 2. Ricky Bigger, Koweta; 3. Chad Morrow, Okmulgee

.8-9 Girls - 1. Tia Brown, Sac & Fox; 2. Lanita Barnett, Hanna; 3. Georgina Hill, Yardeka.

10-11 Boys - 1. Matthew Kalor, Dustin; 2. Joshua Burgess, Wilson; 3. Dave Bigger, Koweta.

10-11 Girls - 1. Jneena Birdcreek, Wilson; 2. Robin Long, Holdenville; 3. Lea Isham, Holdenville.

Tug-O-War

6-7 Boys - 1. Kialegee; 2. Shawnee; 3. Yardeka.

6-7 Girls - 1. Checotah, 2. Shawnee, 3. Koweta.

10-11 Boys - 1. Shawnee, 2. Checotah, 3. Koweta.

Long Jump

12-13 Boys - 1. Charles Rice, Morris; 2. Wesley Dunn, Morris; 3. Justin Bailey, Morris.

12-13 Girls - 1. Makisha Watson, Okfuskee; 2. Tara Sutherland, Eufaula; 3. Sharon Wolf, Okfuskee.

14-15 Boys - 1. Tyson Bracey, Morris; 2. Steve Wolf, Koweta; 3. Seneca Smith, Okemah.

14-15 Girls - 1. Sena Davis, Seminole Wind; 2. Justina Givens, Kialegee; 3. Ella Randall, Okmulgee.

Shot Put

12-13 Boys - 1. Tom Nunn, Yardeka; 2. Wesley Dunn, Morris; 3. Jeremy Fultz, Dustin.

12-13 Girls - 1. Shelly Hicks, Okfuskee; 2. Aeris Davis, Seminole; 3. Kimberly Wills, Seminole.

14-15 Boys - 1. Eric Subia, Bristow; 2. Christopher Randall, Okmulgee; 3. Tony Mills, Morris.

14-15 Girls - 1. Amber Burgess, Okmulgee; 2. Agnes Givens, Kialegee; 3. Shabon Sowka, Yardeka.

How they voted

Results of the June 26 National Council Regular Session

NCA 93-84: Veto. Amending TR 93-03 (Allowing for the authorization on the annexation of the Muskogee bingo facility by the City of Muskogee).

FOR the Veto: 24. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 1. Mose Cahwee.

NCA 93-93: Authorizing the Principal Chief to enter into negotiations with the City of Tulsa on the Riverside Parkway extension project.

FOR: 24. Roy Bear, Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 1. Irene Cleghorn.

NCA 93-94: Allocating renovation funds for the Yardeka Nutrition site.

FOR: 18. Roy Bear, Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, Jim B. Harjo, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner.

NO: 7. Darrell Coachman, Tom Pickering, Eugene Birdcreek, A.D. Ellis, Charlie Litsey, Don Cahwee, Richard Berryhill.

NCA 93-92: Recognizing Lt. Colonel Ernest Childers as one of the most prominent and recognizable American heroes and an outstanding Creek citizen in the United States. Authorizes the Principal Chief to expend \$15,000 from the Dissolution of Creek Nation Construction Account to the Broken Arrow Rotary Foundation to complete the project.

FOR: 15. Roy Bear, Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Sandy McIntosh, Charlie Coker, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 10. Dwayne Lowe, Tom

Pickering, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Don Cahwee.

NCR 93-23: Re-appointment of Joe Johnson to the Supreme Court of the Creek Nation.

FOR: 23. Roy Bear, Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 1. Charlie Coker.

ABSTAIN: 1. Helen Chupco.

NCR 93-24: Confirming Samuel S. Alexander, a tribal citizen, to serve as Tax Commissioner.

FOR: 24. Roy Bear, Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Jim B. Harjo, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 1. Charlie Litsey.

NCA 93-97: Authorizing Arledge and Associates to conduct the 1993 annual audit.

MOTION: by Pickering, second by Bruner to send bill back to the Business and Governmental committee.

FOR: 18. Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, Larry Bible, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner.

NO: 7. Roy Bear, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, George Tiger, Don Cahwee, Richard Berryhill.

NCA 93-100: Authorizing expenditure of \$5,000 for the busts of Opothleyahola for induction into the National Indian Hall of Fame, Anadarko, and a bust for permanent display at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

FOR: 22. Roy Bear, Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly.

NO: 3. Wynema Roberts, Jim B.

Harjo, Charlie Litsey.

NCA 93-105: Expenditures from the Citizenship Board replacement fund, to expend \$1,396 for a photo camera for issuing photo ID's to Creek Citizens and a desk.

FOR: 25. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 0.

NCA 93-104: Re-authorizing emergency home improvement funds for Muscogee citizens.

FOR: 24. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 0.

NCA 93-42: Muscogee (Creek) Nation drug testing policy.

FOR: 24. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 0.

NCA 93-107: Muscogee (Creek) Nation drug free work place bill.

FOR: 23. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly.

NO: 2. Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NCA 93-106: Re-authorizing emergency home improvement funds for Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

FOR: 24. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler,

Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 1. Eugene Birdcreek.

NCA 93-103: Repealing 89-118 and NCA 89-84. The Gaming Operations Board shall be composed of three (3) persons with each member nominated by the Principal Chief and confirmed by the National Council for two year terms on staggered years.

FOR: 25. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

TR 93-06: A resolution opposing the City of Henryetta's proposed plan to discharge sewage water into Burgess Creek.

FOR: 25. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 0.

NCA 93-98: Confirming the Eufaula Boarding School Board of Education with five members. Amended: To receive compensation of \$50 per meeting, plus mileage.

FOR: 23. Roy Bear, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Sandy McIntosh, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Thomas Berryhill, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, Charlie Litsey, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Don Cahwee, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

NO: 1. Dwayne Lowe.

ABSENT: 1. Tom Pickering:

Quarterly financial statement for quarter ending on June 30, 1993

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of the Treasury, as one of its major functions, produces a series of monthly budgetary and general ledger reports on all activities and programs of the Creek Nation. These reports are made available to appropriate tribal management, personnel, and other interested parties.

The office of the treasury maintains an accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. It meets the standards and reporting requirements of the Government Finance Officers Association and the reporting requirements as established under the A-128 Single Audit Act.

Reports prepared under these standards tend to be technical and complex by nature. They may require a more in-depth understanding of both accounting principles and fund accounting than those reports of other entities.

A summary is submitted quarterly in order to keep tribal members aware of the financial status of the Creek Nation. This statement has been prepared on a cash basis to reflect receipts and expenditures accumulated on a year-to-year basis.

PROGRAM NAME	RECEIPTS	BUDGET	ENCUMBERED	EXPENDED	UNENCUMBERED
Litigation & Lobbying	306,891	200,000	0	84,580	115,420
General Taxes & Licenses	974,747	1,342,203	0	1,032,862	309,341
Administration / Indirect	1,114,046	2,651,277	0	1,211,843	1,439,434
Consumer Loans	14,395	55,568	0	31,051	24,517
Creek Nation Bingo	2,323,208	4,184,089	0	2,709,394	1,474,695
CN Permanent Fund	140,578	19,364	0	18,976	388
1992 Tribal Budget	143,748	8,000	0	7,683	317
1993 Tribal Budget	1,146,365	1,181,574	0	673,690	507,884
Tax Commission	15,549	5,210	0	3,469	1,741
JTPA 1991	368	186,877	0	0	186,877
JTPA '91 title IIB	124,006	554,928	0	124,029	430,899
JTPA Title IVA PY 92	430,930	461,118	0	436,116	25,002
Child Care DBG	439,301	1,039,014	0	445,565	593,449
HHS - Head Start 1992	283,978	396,873	0	283,978	112,895
ADM On Aging '92	63,922	67,216	0	67,216	0
Com. Ser. Block Grant	2,150	2,816	0	2,150	666
CCDBG '92	61,789	1,225,177	0	63,664	1,161,513
L.I.H.E.A.P. '92	875	1,747	0	875	872
Title IV - B Child Servcs	823	1,717	0	822	895
Homeless Assist Act '92	48	50	0	0	50
Family Violence Prev. 93	20,138	34,707	0	20,408	14,299
HHS - Head Start 1993	327,945	770,004	0	332,619	437,385
ADM On Aging '93	23,781	101,007	0	25,196	75,811
Com. Ser. Block Grant '93	2,956	16,165	0	3,961	12,204
L.I.H.E.A.P. '93	46,549	49,488	0	47,606	1,882
Title IVB Children Serv	57,858	109,520	0	57,912	51,608
Child Abuse Pre/Educ	81,701	150,000	0	83,801	66,199
Spec Needs Adoption Prog	72,542	150,000	0	75,237	74,763
1992 Food Distribution	125	16,326	0	125	16,201
FDP FY 93	219,833	293,111	0	234,128	58,983
OIAM - Energy Assistance	22,500	22,500	0	22,464	36
Admin. On Aging USDA - Reim	57,593	50,560	0	33,216	17,344
Headstart USDA Reimburse	38,480	48,194	0	38,131	10,063
Euf. Dorm-Activity Fund	25,554	3,084	0	0	3,084
Creek Nation Court Clerk	1,970	3,799	0	3,349	450
Election Board	714	4,093	0	2,354	1,739
BIA T & TA Workshop	4,158	7,622	0	0	7,622
BIA - Eufaula Dorm (Maint)	17,551	0	0	0	0
BIA - Adult Education	51,953	172,302	0	60,188	112,114
BIA - Aid To Tribal Govt.	22,425	92,356	0	33,859	58,497
BIA - Community Services	104,785	185,338	0	104,403	80,935
BIA - Higher Education	504,392	820,392	0	524,349	296,043
BIA - Natural Resources	184,222	517,895	0	205,140	312,755
BIA - Adult Voc. Training	155,606	406,789	0	185,198	221,591
BIA - Employment Assist.	25,718	58,897	0	26,269	32,628
BIA - JOM Early Childhood	11,783	14,517	0	12,993	1,524
BIA - Agriculture	118,486	274,853	0	106,443	168,410
BIA - Social Services	226,425	470,764	0	239,912	230,852
BIA - Housing	153,499	240,307	0	151,068	89,239
BIA - Real Est. Appraisals	86,691	151,035	0	90,897	60,138
BIA - Real Est. Services	126,881	269,245	0	132,966	136,279
Eufaula Dormitory	102,682	45	0	0	45
BIA - Indian Child Welfare	7,439	8,240	0	7,438	802
BIA - Business Dev. Grant	274,589	224,227	0	167,818	56,409
1992 Eufaula Dormitory	613,472	927,871	0	722,187	205,684
BIA - JOM	11,991	12,056	0	11,991	65
Tribal Judicial & Court	73,249	93,845	0	75,753	18,092
Law Enforcement Program	371,106	699,146	0	384,293	314,853
Tribal Self Governance	49,230	47,539	0	32,545	14,994
Indian Child Welfare 92	101,432	118,819	0	98,722	20,097
BIA - Trans. Improv. Prog.	33,218	54,000	0	332,874	21,126
BIA - Child Abuse Init.	40,391	90,100	0	38,360	51,740
JOM Program	328,208	867,513	0	340,626	526,887
Tribal Agric Program	3,889	68,809	0	19,592	49,217
Mgmt Advisory Services	5,000	10,000	0	0	10,000
Com. Health Rep. '89	19,171	171,534	0	0	171,534
Community Health Rep. 92	89,502	369,917	0	89,502	280,415
CN Housing Authority	3,777	15,397	0	2,363	13,034
Construction Company	630,099	1,280,687	0	779,429	501,258
CHR '93	447,087	1,124,529	0	459,594	664,935
CN Mfg.Enterprises	100,454	100,000	0	98,212	1,788
Communication Reving Fnd	3,462	12,549	0	10,163	2,386
Tribal - Real Prop & Facil	522,693	663,119	0	417,968	245,151
Tribal - Property & Supply	81,955	79,475	0	67,822	11,653
CN. Foun. Schlorship Funds	2,799	5,000	0	3,488	1,512
Festival Committee' 93	86,500	73,751	0	68,329	5,422
TOTALS	\$14,385,926.00	26,207,856.00	\$0.00	\$13,981,224.00	\$12,226,632.00

Tribe opens seventh bingo hall south of Muskogee city limits

continued from page 1

open six nights a week. The hall will be closed on Mondays.

Tribal gaming commissioner, Rocky McIntosh said the facility is expected to generate more than \$1 million a year.

"Due to the dedicated efforts of many Creek citizens, another positive economic development project of the nation will open July 24, 1993," McIntosh said. "This project will help better serve the needs of our people in education, health, and social services. It will also benefit the general population because of an increased tax base and increased tourism."

The facility overcame several obstacles and is now considered a showcase in the gaming industry with the latest in technology McIntosh said.

The Muskogee city council approved a contract for city services to the hall at its June 28 meeting, paving the way for completion of the bingo hall.

"We're very happy to complete our negotiations with the Creek tribe and we're very happy to have this facility in Muskogee," said mayor Kathy Hewitt. "This shows [Creek Nation believes in the economic impact Muskogee offers."

Hewitt and Fife signed the contract for city services June 30. The contract does not stipulate the annexation of the facility into city limits.

Since the bingo hall is on federal trust land, it cannot be annexed into the city. The tribe and city negotiated a contract within the confines of federal land.

Tribal attorney Tim Posey completed the agreement and presented it to the city council, which gave it unanimous approval.

Ken Childers and Sonny O'Hern, both members of the tribal gaming operations authority board, expressed pleasure of the agreement and with the hall opening.

"This will make an impact on the tribe and on the community of Muskogee," O'Hern said. "We'll employ 40 to 50 people and all live within a 20-mile radius of the facility. We're looking forward to the opening because it's been a long process of getting it done, but it's finally done."

He expressed his appreciation to the attorneys involved and to the National Council for its continued support of the project. O'Hern also credits Fife and his administration for using the Creek Nation Development and Construction Company to build the facility.

"I think the people will be proud of the facility knowing that our own company built it," O'Hern said.

"We're enthused about the opening of the Muskogee Bingo Hall," Childers said. "This will bring in jobs and provide income for the tribe."

Childers and O'Hern both expressed appreciation to Posey and gaming board attorney Geoffrey Standingbear for helping overcome recent obstacles that delayed completion of the hall.

The facility broke ground on May 9, 1992 with excavation starting shortly after.

The tribal construction company had been defunct



Muskogee bingo hall manager Joe Fox.

photo by Noah Long

since 1972, but after the tribe rejected high bids from other construction firms, it was decided to reactivate the tribal company.

Ray Fish is the development and construction manager. Through the tribally owned business, several Creeks were hired to work construct the building. Additionally, American Indian businesses were given priority for supplies, services, and subcontracting.

"A lot of people thought Indian people couldn't do things like this," said the tribal executive director Jerry Wilson. "We used our own construction company and our own people to get his project completed."

Wilson said the project paid \$400,000 on Indian employment.

Wilson said the project demonstrated fulfillment

of tribal objectives to expand the economic development program, create jobs, generate income, and to gain experience in the construction business.

"By using our own construction company, we were able to reduce the cost of building the facility," Wilson said.

Muskogee District representative Helen Chupco also expressed pleasure at the opening of the bingo hall.

"This will give our people jobs," she said during the recent regular council meeting. "We have a lot of people who need jobs and this will help."

Creeks continue battle with tax commission

continued from page 1
tion with an injury."

The tobacco was en route from Kansas bound for two tribal smokeshops. Alley said the state can keep the truck and products until the larger question of constitutionality of state law is decided. Only 12 tribes have entered into tobacco taxation compacts with the state. The Muscogee Nation is recognized as the leader among Indians throughout the nation in continuing its struggle for sovereignty, Fife said.

Council

continued from page 3

- approved a drug testing policy for employees and a resolution designating the Creek Nation a drug free work place;

- opposed the City of Henryetta's plan to discharge sewage water into Burgess Creek, which flows through the Wilson community, and;

- approved a five-member Eufaula Boarding School board.

Festival

continued from page 1

said festival co-chair Barton Williams.

Williams said \$6,000 was earned by the \$3 per car gate fee and most of the profit came from the events staying within their budget. Many were underbudget thanks to donations from employees and area merchants and individuals. Williams said 10,000 people attended the festival despite the rain that fell early Friday evening and Saturday.

Despite the weather problems, several events went on as scheduled, although with some delay. The Junior Olympics on Friday attracted 750 youths from 24 communities and three outside tribal groups, making this year's event the largest in the history of the Olympics, said Henry Harjo, coordinator of the Junior Olympics.

The tribal construction company had been defunct



The Muscogee Nation News

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August 1993, 8 Pages

Fife says petition allegations baseless

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief Bill Fife says the petition for his removal filed July 8, is politically motivated and contains allegations that are baseless.

Tribal citizen James Morgan of Schulter, who filed the notice of intent to circulate a removal petition that contends Fife:

- travelled excessively;
- ignored personnel complaints against administrative management;
- authorized Second Chief Shelly Crow to take a 90-day paid leave of absence;
- allowed excessive spending by the Lighthorse Administration; and
- was negligent with the construction of the Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo Hall.

"These allegations are nothing more than exaggerated distortions of very small pieces of facts," Fife said.

Fife said it is unfortunate that a few discontented people would try to prevent progress from his administration.

"Nineteen months ago, I was greeted by an organization that was in chaos," Fife said. "My staff was offered very little help from the previous administration during the transition. Still we've managed to make progress."

regarding the allegations. Fife said all expenditures by his office were allocated in the fiscal year 1993 comprehensive budget that was approved by the National Council. Additionally, Fife said his travel has been beneficial for the tribe. For example, he has represented the Muscogee Nation and other eastern Oklahoma tribes on the Bureau of Indian Affairs reorganization task force.

He along, with 35 other tribal leaders from across the nation have been meeting quarterly for the past two years providing input into the BIA's reorganization. These meetings are financed by the federal government.

Other travel has resulted in a significant joint business venture with the Mississippi Choctaws. The Choctaw-Creek venture resulted in the tribe being one of the three finalists for a multi-million dollar contract with the supreconducting supercollider project.

"Ethics dictate that I do not discuss personnel matters publicly, but procedures are in place to take corrective action if needed. However, I do support the administrative

Inside:
Second chief
offers
response to
her removal
petition,
page 3



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Tribal officials and other dignitaries were present for the grand opening of the Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo Hall. Present for the July 24 ribbon cutting were: front row from left, Muskogee attorney Drew Edmondson; Principal Chief Bill Fife; Muskogee bingo hall secretary Melissa Amber; Second Chief Shelly Crow; and Gamma International representative Nelson Johnson. Back row, gaming board chair Sonny O'Hern; community services director Harley Little; Chickasaw Nation Lt. Governor David Brown, and Muskogee Bingo manager Joe Fox.

Tribal elections to become automatic National Council filing period September 20 through 22

OKMULGEE — Elections for 36 National Council seats will conducted this fall and for the first time in history, automated voting machines will be used, announced Jess Kelly, chair of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation election board.

By using the automated voting machines results will be tabulated within minutes after the polls close, Kelly said.

"We are very excited about using the machines for this year's elections," Kelly said.

Five additional seats will be added this year with one additional representative each from Muskogee, Okmulgee, Tulsa, Hughes, and McIntosh districts.

The election also announced the following dates related to the 1993 elections:

- Sept. 29 — absentee voter registration closes;
- Sept. 20 - 22 — National Council representative candidates filing period;
- Oct. 13 — precinct registration closes;
- Oct. 23 — primary election;
- Dec. 4 — general election.

Qualifications for voter registration have been outlined by the election board as follows:

- Creek citizens must be 18 years of age with a valid enrollment card; and
- addresses must be up-to-date with the election board.

Candidates seeking National Council office must

follow the guidelines outlined by the tribal constitution:

- be at least one-quarter blood enrolled Creek-Yuchi citizen;
- live within the district for one year prior to election; and
- deposit \$100 filing fee by cashiers check, certified check, or money order. No cash will be accepted.

Opothleyahola to be enshrined

by Noah Long

WETUMKA — Thomas Yahola's long-time dream will become a reality Aug. 22 in Anadarko.

Legendary Muscogee leader Opothleyahola will be inducted into the National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians during 2 p.m. ceremonies.

It was Yahola's interest in the Creek leader — developed during his college years at Bacone — that has led to Opothleyahola's induction as the first and only Creek Indian in the Hall of Fame.

"I've always heard of Opothleyahola from my father

please see HALL OF FAME..., page 8

Crow to participate at national conference

by Second Chief Shelly Crow

The National Governors' Association 1993 Annual Conference will be held Aug. 15 through 17 at the Maxwell Convention Center in Tulsa. Several issues will be discussed that will affect Indian citizens of certain states.

Colorado governor Roy Romer is the association chair. President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore are expected to attend.

The following are topics will be discussed:

Aug. 15 — Task force for health and a welcome reception for all meeting attendees. Also, a pow wow will be held at the Tulsa Fair Grounds following the last session;

Aug. 16 — Republican and Democratic governors association meetings and the opening session on health care reform. I will be participating on a panel to discuss health care reform that will be broadcast on KOTV channel 6 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Also, a task force on education will be presented.

Aug. 17 — A session on reinventing government will highlight the events on the final day of the conference.

All of these topics will impact every tribe in the United States.

We are in hopes that our governors will remember that each individual state has independent nations within their boundaries.

I hope that the education task force will address culturally sensitive issues to minorities in their particular states. Topics of language barriers for minorities and certain tests are not culturally sensitive to minority groups.

Health care topics should also be addressed concerning ethnic groups and how they should be implemented into all states' health care systems. Financing these programs will affect all citizens since minorities are taxpayers.

please see REFORM..., page 8

Letters to the editor

Citizen disclaims his involvement

Editor:

I am writing this letter concerning the petition filed against Principal Chief Bill Fife and Second Chief Shelly Crow.

I have been asked several times as to how everything is coming along with the petition. My answer to them, and to you, is — I don't have any idea.

I have been accused of being the one behind the petition, which is not true. I do not personally know this man that filed the petition and I have not discussed anything with him.

Anyone who knows me can say that I am my own person and speak for what I believe in and I cannot be intimidated into saying or doing anything I don't believe in.

I do not plan to sign the petition, but I will say that if they

please see LETTERS..., page 8

Clarifications

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement appearing in the July issue of The Muscogee Nation News should have reported that the Bureau of Indian Affairs transportation improvement program has expended \$32,874. Additionally, the report reflects a year-to-date base not year-to-year.

Also, the photo of Anita Kaye Barnett (at right) was omitted inadvertently from the June edition of The MNN. Barnett is an honor student in the Hanna Public School system.



Barnett

Fife: "Jobs, communities, and families are my 1994 priorities."

by Principal Chief Bill Fife

By serving our citizens, empowering our families, employees and our communities, we can foster excellence and quality.

My staff and I have been planning the tribal agenda for Fiscal Year 1994, which begins Oct. 1, 1993. The agenda is a refinement of the strategic plan that was developed during the early months of my term.

I remain committed to the goals and ideas that were discussed during my campaign and I believe many people share the same sense of purpose and mission.

Specifically, my goals are:

- Reorganize the tribal programs.

This includes streamlining programs, provide employee training, and continue staff development. We must create an atmosphere and attitude that encourages tribal administrators to achieve positive results through self-motivation and imitation.

The streamlining of government will result in the elimination of unneeded programs and processes, and identifying other targets of fiscal savings.

This reorganization will be accomplished through legislative reform, executive order, deregulation, or other means as appropriate. The bottom line is that we must provide effective services delivered in an efficient manner.

- Promote healthy families.

I know how important family is and I am fortunate that I was raised in a family that offered guidance, discipline, and support. Many of the values I have today were developed and nurtured by my family.

I would like to develop programs that provide family planning, parental support services and bring together the wisdom and knowledge of elders with the enthusiasm and energy of youth.

- Provide an environment where communities can be strengthened.

The original concept of chartered communities was to develop them as full-functioning parts of the larger tribal government.

Some tribal programs have already established satellite offices in areas away from the tribal capitol.

With the technology available today, even rural communities would not have to feel removed from the tribe.

I want to see more training and technical assistance pro-

vided at the community level. We must begin facilitating leadership to communities so they may better utilize their internal resources.

- Create more jobs.

The tribe has been successful in creating employment opportunities during the first 18 months of this administration.

We have great success with our Muscogee (Creek) Nation Manufacturing Enterprises and our joint venture with the Mississippi Choctaws — Choctaw Creek Technologies — which was awarded a federal contract.

Other proposals have been developed to bring jobs and revenue to the tribe. We are seeking grant funds, businesses, and investors for the tribe, as well as identifying the basic needs of our people.

I also want to encourage individual Creek entrepreneurs to develop community and individual businesses.

- Increase educational opportunities.

The cornerstone of my 1994 goals is education.

I have made education one of the most important goals in my platform. Education is the great equalizer in this society. though there are those that will never accept us because we are Indians, education will give us that equal opportunity to succeed and achieve.

Education is essential to improve the quality of life.

Specifically, I want to provide scholarships, assessment services, career counseling, community education, and internships with institutions of tribal government.

I know that my goals might seem very ambitious, but the people have told me these are the things they want. I also believe this tribe has the resources and the character to become greater.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Managing editor: Jim Wolfe

Senior staff writer: Stephanie Berryhill

Staff writer: Noah Long

Audio-visual specialist: Gerald Wofford

LEGAL NOTICE

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee District, filed July 9, 1993

In the Matter of:

Baby Girl Yahola (JV 92-70)

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation to:

Unknown Father of Baby Girl Yahola

You are hereby notified that an adjudication-termination hearing as to said child has been set in the above styled and numbered cause for 9:00 a.m. on the 23rd day of August, 1993, before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore, District Judge, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at which time you are directed to appear on said date at said time.

Dated this 9 day of July, 1993.

Tribal affairs briefs

Holdenville bingo closes

HOLDENVILLE — Play at the Creek Nation Holdenville bingo has ended, announced Rocky McIntosh, commissioner of the office of public gaming for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

McIntosh said the lack of summer attendance led to the closing of the facility.

"You just can't make it on 125 [people] daily attendance," McIntosh said. He added there are no plans to reopen the bingo hall.

With the closing, the Creek Nation now has six bingo halls in operation — Tulsa, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Checotah, Bristow, and Eufaula.

The Holdenville facility opened in February with an average attendance of 169 during February and March. Average attendance fell to 125 prompting the closing.

Johnson-O'Malley offices relocate

OKMULGEE — The offices of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson-O'Malley program have been moved, announced program director Ken Taryole.

The JOM offices are now located in rooms 224, 225, and 226 in Lackey Hall, Building 119, on the campus of Oklahoma State University- Okmulgee. Lackey Hall is located at the first exit off East 4th and one-half block north.

The mailing address remains the same, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Telephone numbers for staff members are: Ken Taryole, manager, (918) 756-4363; Grace Bunner, field specialist, (918) 756-5227; Sandra Peters, field specialist, (918) 756-5766; and Jim Chalakee, JOM clerk, (918) 756-5766.

The JOM program provides supplemental support to school programs and operations to maintain educational standards for eligible Indian students. The program supports more than 8,400 students through 43 JOM school projects within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Health system offers optometry services

OKEMAH — Muscogee (Creek) citizens can receive huge discounts on the purchase of prescription glasses and contact lenses from the Creek Nation Health System, said Dr. Richard D. Creed, chief of optometry services.

Creed said the Creek Nation offers a median price of \$65 for glasses that could cost \$180 from chain stores and \$158 from private offices. Soft contact lenses in other markets would cost from \$175 to \$275, while the tribe offers a price range from \$19 to \$38. Creed said the costs for rigid gas permeable contact lenses are priced from \$200 to \$300 elsewhere. The tribe offers a price of \$78. Disposable contact lenses in the economy range from \$450 to \$600 per year, while the Creek Nation offers a price of \$136.

Patients must schedule an appointment with the clinic and have a chart on file, or start a chart when appearing for the appointment, said secretary LaBrista Landers. Certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB) and Muscogee Nation citizenship cards are also necessary. Senior citizens and students attending classes in kindergarten through 12th grade may be eligible for free services.

Applications can be obtained from the tribal community health representative (CHR) office in Okmulgee at the tribal capitol complex. The clinic is located at 304 North 14th Street in Okemah. To schedule an appointment, call (918) 623-1688.

Second Chief dismisses removal efforts

OKMULGEE — Second Chief Shelly Crow refuted a removal petition alleging she has overspent funds and travelled excessively.

As one of 36 full-time consultants to the President's Health Task Force in Washington D.C., Crow took 50-days leave of absence from her position, she said. Crow contends that tribal representation at the national level is necessary.

The petition — filed by tribal citizen James Morgan of Schulter, on July 8 — also alleges, Crow:

— [was] not being available for staff and citizens by taking a 90-day leave of absence while receiving a \$100 a day stipend from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and

— has been using her office for personal gain.

As second chief, she contends she is an advocate for the Creek people. It is imperative the tribe have representation at the intertribal, state, and federal level so that its sovereignty is retained, Crow said. "Everyday there is something happening that affects this tribe; we need someone [in Washington D.C.]. You cannot stay in Okmulgee, Okla. and get anything done. We've tried that before and it doesn't work — but you go meet them face-to-face and tell them you vote."

Having been in the health care profession for 19 years, living within tribal boundaries, and understanding the needs of the people — Crow and Principal Chief Bill Fife felt her input valuable to the tribe and the task force, she said.

Because of her professional expertise, Crow's travel is usually related to health issues; she also makes economic development oriented trips, she said. Regardless of her fund-

ing source, she has always represented the tribe and other Indians living within tribal boundaries, she said.

Crow said the majority of her travel is paid by such entities as the U.S. Public Health Service, Indian Health Service, and the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission — of which Crow serves as chair. "I've given [travel] reports to Chief and allowed accessibility to anyone," she said.

Crow contends that without her presence as a member of the task force, decisions that may have detrimentally affected health care for Creeks and other Indian people would have gone unchallenged. Among topics of discussion were integrating the Indian Health Service and the Veterans Administration, she said. If this had occurred tribal clinics could have either been closed or been opened up to the VA.

"I told them they could combine the Department of Defense and VA because they are employees of the government. [They did not realize] that we are citizens of our own nation with treaties with the [U.S.]"

Other issues that Crow challenged were discussions of contributing P.L. 93-638 funds — received yearly by tribes for health services — to the states, she said. The tribe receives eight million dollars per year in funds for health, "I told [President] Clinton we need 50 million."

Through networking with the President, Crow said she was able to obtain Fife and tribal director of health Ed Mouss a consultation with assistant secretary of health Dr. Phillip Lee. During the appointment, Mouss was afforded

Please see CROW..., page 8

Council rejects Head Start reorganization

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Efforts to reorganize the Head Start program will continue after the Muscogee (Creek) National Council voted down a plan during its regular meeting July 31.

Citing an incompleteness to the bill, the council voted down the reorganization measure by a 13-9 margin following a 30-minute debate.

The bill would have allowed a parent policy council to be composed of representatives from the Head Start communities of Eufaula, Yeager, Sapulpa, Okmulgee and one member at large to govern the Head Start staff and its operations, while allowing the tribe to function as a flow through for funding and the National Council as a monitor of the program.

Okmulgee District representative Harvey Gilroy said he will introduce a bill that will provide all the necessary changes to improve the Head Start program.

Gilroy was joined by Okfuskee, Okmulgee and Muskogee representatives Mae Jackson, George Tiger and veteran representative Helen Chupco in voicing opposition to the bill.

Both representatives said the bill needed to say more about a complete reorganization.

"The only thing I'm against is that it's not complete," Gilroy said. "I have a bill coming up that is complete that will take care of every item."

He received support from Jackson during the debate.

"In this particular bill, we've heard from the employees and the representatives," Jackson said. "Because of that, I'm not clear on the situation and I see a lot of people, but we haven't heard from them. This bill is not all that clear to me, so I'll have to vote against it."

Muskogee representative Chupco said the Muscogee Nation is the grantee of the Head Start program and should have a major role in the direction of the program.

"This bill does not clearly define the findings and purposes," Chupco said. "I don't believe the parent committee has been fully informed about this bill. The grantee is still the Creek Nation. This ordinance is not polished like it should be."

Speaking for the reorganization bill were Tulsa representative Steve Bruner and Pat Kelly along with McIntosh representative Judy Roberts.

"There needs to be reorganization," Bruner said. "This involves the Indian parents and we all agree the Head Start program is needed."

"People think if this bill passes that the Head Start program becomes an entity in itself," he said. "Quite the contrary. The National Council will still be the monitor of the program."

Both Kelly and Roberts stated their

support of the bill in its present form because reorganization is needed to meet federal guidelines.

In other business, the council approved funding bills for orthodontic care, renovation funds for the Yardeka nutrition program, home improvements bill, and funds to improve tribal facilities.

Randall recovering

TULSA — National council member Okema Randall is recovering at home from open heart surgery, performed June 25 at St. John's Hospital in Tulsa.

Randall, the council representative from Tulsa, suffered a heart attack in Broken Arrow June 21 and was transferred to St. John's on Wednesday.

"She had four bypasses in the operation," said her husband Les Randall. "She's doing well but she cannot take any visitors at this time."

Randall had coordinated the pow-wow for the Creek National Festival before she suffered the heart attack.

see COUNCIL..., page 8

Notices

All-Indian bowling tournament set

DALLAS — The 24th Annual Dallas Indian League Bowling Tournament will be Sept. 25 and 26.

The five-member mixed team event is directed by Harry Martinez. For more information contact Martinez at 4030 Virginia Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75211, or call (214) 337-6035.

Dewar schools seeks art instructor

DEWAR — The Dewar Public Schools announces a position as art instructor for the Dewar Indian program to work 20 sessions, two hours each session. The instructor will work with students, kindergarten through 12th grade, after school from 3 to 5 p.m. Applicant must have high school diploma or GED. Indian preference. CDIB required.

Contact: Roger Buffe, Dewar School, P.O. Box 790, Dewar, OK, 74431 or phone (918) 652-9625 or (918) 652-2184.

Sheeting available

OKMULGEE — Rolls of sheeting material are still available to tribal citizens, communities, church groups, ceremonial grounds, tribal towns and other affiliates, said Steve Landsberry, manager of the community organization.

The sheeting is in bulk rolls, some weighing near 500 pounds and varies from five feet with a diameter of 1 1/2 feet, while others are not as long but have a diameter of two to three feet. The material could be used for table cloths, drop cloths, wall covering and other needs.

Persons or organizations interested in the material should bring a pick-up truck. It can be picked up at the north door of the food distribution warehouse between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. For more information, call Sydney Yahola at (918) 756-8700, extension 311.

Kialegee Tribal Town sponsors contest

WETUMKA — The Kialegee Tribal Town is sponsoring a flag-seal design contest, open to all tribal town members and members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The winning entry will receive a \$250 savings bond, said administrator Raymond Johnson. Deadline to enter is Aug. 20 and the winner will be announced on Aug. 28.

Johnson said the flag and seal should highlight "Kialegee Tribal Town" and focus on the legendary warrior symbol of the town, a single eagle or single owl feather.

Johnson said entries should be submitted on a sheet of paper not smaller than 5 1/2 inches by 6 inches with a circular or vertical format, although other formats will also be considered.

For more information contact Johnson or Jim Wesley at (405) 452-3413.

How they voted

OKMULGEE — How the National Council representatives voted during the regular session July 31, 1993.

NCA 93-87 - Reorganization of the Headstart to Muscogee Creek Nation Child Development project. For: 9. Against 13. Bill fails.

For: Clarence Cloud, Sandy McIntosh, Tom Pickering, Charlie Coker, Clyde Johnson, Wynema Roberts, Charlie Litsey, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

Against: Roy Bear, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Helen Chupco, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, A.D. Ellis, Harvey Gilroy, Jim B. Harjo, George Tiger, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly.

NCA 93-101 - Donating surplus vehicles to Hughes County Sheriff's department. For 15, No 7. Bill passes.

For: Bear, Cloud, Coachman, Franks, Lowe, Pickering, Ellis, Gilroy, Harjo, Litsey, Tiger, Cleghorn, Kelly, Bruner,

Tribe's first tax commissioner confirmed

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Samuel S. Alexander has been named the first tax commissioner of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Alexander, a certified public accountant from Broken Arrow, was nominated by Principal Chief Bill Fife and confirmed by the National Council in June. Alexander assumed his new duties in early July.

Alexander, 47, has been active in the political field having served as treasurer for the unsuccessful Drew Edmondson for Congress campaign.

He has also been active in the affairs of the Creek Nation. He has performed the audits of the Muskogee County Indian Credit Association for the past three years.

"Because of the personal satisfaction received from working with and for my Indian peers, I am anxious to



Alexander

pursue other work with my tribe," Alexander said of assuming the role as tax commissioner. "Both my father and uncle served our tribe in various capacities in the 1950s and there are many memories of Saturdays spent on the lawn of the old council building in downtown Okmulgee while the elders met. Accordingly, it is an honor to be so considered (for the office)."

Alexander is a graduate of Northeastern State University, Tahlequah and has a degree in business administration. He also has accumulated graduate hours at Oklahoma University.

He is married and has three daughters ranging in age from three to 18 years old.

He entered the public accounting field in 1973 in Muskogee. Alexander then joined the state's largest CPA firm in Oklahoma City in 1976. He joined a Tulsa firm in 1980 that had emphasis in the oil and gas business.

In 1982, Alexander formed his own practice in Tulsa where he specialized in the oil and gas business. He also formed a small oil and gas business that drilled and operated wells for four years.

Food distribution manager wins national recognition

OKMULGEE — Charley LaSarge, manager of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation commodity warehouse, has been awarded a national honor.

LaSarge, of Okmulgee, was recognized by the National Association of Food Distributors on Indian Reservations during the national meeting held recently in Denver. The award was for providing efficient food distribution to tribal members.

LaSarge has been the manager of the food distribution program since May 1985. He is responsible for a \$2 million annual operation to serve more than 3,200 clients per month. The tribe however, spends only \$120,000 annually for operation of the program with the federal government covering the remaining portion.

In addition to his tribal duties, LaSarge also serves as the first vice president of the national organization, serves as the southwest regional vice president for Oklahoma and New Mexico, is president of the action committee for the tribes, and is on the advisory committee for the southwest tribes.



Donations of 700 gallons of drinking water was recently donated by the Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo for use by the elderly in Okmulgee. When word was received of Okmulgee's water problem, the Tulsa bingo hall gathered 700 gallons of water from its customers during a special game said gaming operations authority board member Ken Childers. Jackie Jimerson and Andria Cutnose delivered the water to the tribal headquarters where tribal employees Bill Dowdy and Danny Roberts unloaded the water for delivery. photo by Noah Long

R. Berryhill.

No: McIntosh, Chupco, Coker, Birdcreek, Jackson, Johnson, Roberts.

NCA 93-33 - Repealing NCA 93-90 (amending the election code). For 22, No 0. Bill passes.

NCA 93-53 - Amending NCA 81-82 (the election code article X, Section 1015 d. For 19. No. 3. Bill passes.

For: Bear, Cloud, Coachman, Franks, McIntosh, Chupco, Coker, Birdcreek, Jackson, Roberts, Ellis, Gilroy, Harjo, Litsey, Tiger, Cleghorn, Bruner, Berryhill.

No: Lowe, Pickering, Kelly.

NCA 93-109 - Amending NCA 91-95, orthodontic care funding of \$80,000. For 22. No 0. Bill passes.

NCA 93-114 - Repealing NCA 81-04 and NCA 87-72, requiring regular session and special sessions of the National Council and for other purposes. For 21. No 1. Bill passes.

No: Pickering.

Approval of absentee counters - For 22, No. 0

NCA 93-94 - Allocation of renovation funds of \$20,000 for the Yardeka Nutrition site. For 22. No 0. Bill passes.

NCA 93-97 - Authorizing Arledge & Associates to conduct the annual 1993 audit. For 22. No 22. Bill passes.

NCA 93-108 - Appropriating funds to improve existing facilities and amending NCA 92-145. For 20. No. 2. Bill passes.

No votes: Wynema Roberts, Steve Bruner.

NCA 93-24 - Establishing the planning session date two days prior to regular and quarterly session. Amended to four days prior to regular and quarterly session. For 12, No 10. Bill passes.

For: Bear, Coachman, Franks, McIntosh, Pickering, Ellis, Harjo, Litsey, Bible, Kelly, Bruner, R. Berryhill.

No: Lowe, Chupco, Coker, Birdcreek, Jackson, Johnson, Roberts, Gilroy, Tiger, Cleghorn, R. Berryhill.

NCA 93-113 - Authorizing emergency home improvement funds of \$50,000 to qualified income Creek citizens. For 22, Against 0. Bill passes.

Siblings receive pageant honors

TULSA — Two Creek-Yuchi children competed at the state America's Cover Miss and Mr. Pageant with both receiving runner-up titles.

Mark Alan Back II, received a second runner-up trophy and his sister, Britian Back received a fourth runner-up title. Because both were runner-ups, they were awarded entry fees to compete at the national pageant in Orlando, Fla.

Mark was sponsored by Sarah McNac and Britian was sponsored by Mindy Brown and Marthena and Mickey McNac.

They are the children of Mark and Stephanie Back of Tulsa and are the grandchildren of Melba Williams of Glenpool and Joe Skeeter of Liberty Mounds. Paternal grandparents are Jerry and Margaret Back of Tulsa. Maternal great-grandparents are Jimmie Skeeter of Liberty Mounds and Howard Williams of Bixby. The paternal great-grandmother is Edna Back of Flint, Mich.

Harjo celebrates birthday

HOLDENVILLE — Brent Allen "Opie" Harjo celebrated his fifth birthday July 8 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Faulkner, his grandparents.

Attending were his aunt Teresa Scott and cousins from Oklahoma City. Harjo is the son of Wayne and Janie Harjo of Holdenville.



The Backs



Harjo

Sarah Elizabeth Watson

ADA — Sarah Elizabeth Watson was born April 30 at the Carl Albert Indian Hospital, Ada.

She weighed seven pounds and was 18 and one-half inches long at birth.

Her parents are Konawa Watson of Holdenville and George Franks of Sasakwa. Maternal grandparents are Edwin and Abbie Larney of Holdenville and Cerie Watson of Tuba City, Ariz. Paternal grandparents are John and Lucy Franks of Sasakwa.

Maternal great-grandparents are the late Toby Alexander and Hattie Alexander of Lamar.

Travis James Pigeon

SAPULA — Travis James Pigeon celebrated his third birthday with a party at Liberty Park.

The party was provided by his older brother Martin Wayne Littlebear. Pigeon is the son of Stephen T. Pigeon and Betty Jo Watson. Grandparents are Sam Watson and Lechita Sanders and Willie and Patsy Pigeon.



Watson



Pigeon

Education briefs

Farmer to attend biophysics academy

PLANO, Texas — Jeremy Farmer was one of 20 high school students selected to attend the 1993 summer Biophysics Academy at Oklahoma State University.

Farmer, Creek, will be a junior this fall at Plano East Senior High School. He was the only Texas student and the only American Indian selected to attend the academy.

The four-week academy will focus on discussion and laboratory sessions for discovering and applying the principles of physics to understand the cardiovascular system.

Farmer plans to major in biological sciences, followed by a degree in medicine, specializing in cryo-genetics.

Farmer is the great grandson of the late Nellie Frank and grandson of Frances Ryan.

McIntosh graduates from academy

MOORE — Nicole Suzanne McIntosh graduated from Christian Heritage Academy, Oklahoma City as an honor student.

McIntosh is listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students and was twice recognized as an Association of Christian Schools International distinguished student.

Active in athletics, she received numerous honors from her school and from the Oklahoma Christian Schools Athletic Association, including all-state recognition in both volleyball and basketball.

She plans to attend Mid-America Bible College, Oklahoma City, this fall and participate in volleyball and basketball.

As an active member of the Glorieta Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, McIntosh has participated in vacation Bible schools on reservations in New Mexico, North Dakota, New York, and Utah.

She is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Ledtkey McIntosh and the granddaughter of the late Rev. J.D. (Cap) McIntosh and Velva Richards McIntosh. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hammack of Dewar.

Smith receives scholarship

EDMOND — Andrea Lee Smith received a scholarship for performing arts from the Tulsa Indian Art Festival. Her scholarship was applied to attend the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute at Quartz Mountain.

Smith was selected as one of three flutists in the state to attend. She is the daughter of John and Grace Smith of Edmond and the granddaughter of Harmon and Anna Lee Wiley of Miami.



Farmer



McIntosh



Smith

Martin graduates from Northern Arizona

TUCSON, Ariz. — James Winston Martin recently graduated with honors from Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, with a criminal justice degree.

While attending NAU he was the president of the honor society, which was named the outstanding chapter in the nation.

Martin has been accepted into the University of Wisconsin law school.

He is the son of Elizabeth Sanger Martin, the grandson of the late John Carl Sanger and the great-grandson of the late Gertrude Doughty Sanger Smith of Eufaula.

Teehee pitches on successful team

TAHLEQUAH — Jamie "Tornado" Teehee, Creek-Cherokee, captured most valuable player honors at the Tahlequah Girls softball tournament in late May.

Teehee is the pitcher for the Tahlequah Little Devils, a team with a large number of Indian players.

Teehee gets her nickname from her high-arch and back-spin pitching style.

The Little Devils finished the season undefeated for first place. The team has also won tournaments at Tahlequah, Ada and they were fourth at Muskogee and Fort Smith, Ark. They advanced to the state tournament by placing fourth in the district.

The Little Devils were one of the top six teams at the state meet to qualify for the regionals, which will be in Baton Rouge, La. A high finish at the regionals would allow the team to enter the national tournament in Orlando, Fla.

Teehee is the daughter of Jim and Brenda (Cook) Teehee of Tahlequah and the granddaughter of the late Joe Cook and Helen Cook of Holdenville.



Teehee

Checotah Indian Community report

CHECOTAH — Carolyn Bigpond was the guest speaker for the Checotah Indian Community's monthly meeting.

Bigpond, of the tribe's child abuse prevention program, spoke about program services and presented a video. Bigpond also asked for the community's input on programs which may be beneficial. A banquet was held for the youth who participated in the Creek Nation Festival Olympics. The youth are also planning for a trip next year and will be collecting cans and having fund raisers. The summer extravaganza youth program has begun with 20 to 30 youth attending. Activities are coordinated by Mrs. Lois Mitchell and her assistants. They have been on field trips, learned arts and crafts, and culture lessons.

Reunions

Marshall family reunion set

WETUMKA — The Marshall family reunion will Sept. 6 beginning at 11 a.m. at the Wetumka Indian Community Center. All attending are asked to bring a covered dish.

Jacobs family reunion set

OKMULGEE — The Jacobs family reunion has been set for Sept. 5 at the Okmulgee Indian Community center. The event will begin at 11 a.m. and everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and family photos.

Creek-Yuchi to play semi-pro football

TULSA — A Creek-Yuchi citizen hopes a gamble in football pays off.

Brian Rowe will be playing a big role in the formation of Tulsa's semi-professional football team, the Gamblers.

Rowe at 6-4, 315 pounds, is one of the biggest players for the newly-formed Gamblers.

Rowe is the son of Jack and Georgina Rowe and the grandson of National Council representative Mose Cahwee.

The Gamblers will open the season with an exhibition game in Tahlequah then travel to Louisiana to begin league play.

Rowe easily won a playing position with the Gamblers during summer tryouts. Several hopeful gridders tried out for the team, but Rowe was told from their first practice he would have no problem in winning a spot on the team.

"It's great being out on the field again," Rowe said. Rowe played high school football for Eufaula, while living at the tribal-operated Eufaula boarding school dorm.

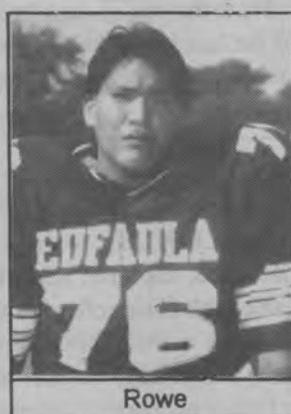
Rowe is slated to play the offensive tackle position.

His cousin, Kenneth Watashe was the main mover in landing Rowe on the team.

"Kenneth went to the first tryout and the coach asked him if he knew of any other big men that could play," Rowe said. "He then got me to come to a tryout and they told me I could play for them. Me and Kenneth are the two biggest guys on the team."

Watashe, a 1986 Kellyville High School graduate, said he found out about the team from a friend, Scooter Webb, who played for Tulsa University. However, Watashe has since left the squad to continue his job.

The first game of the season is scheduled for Aug. 14 in Louisiana. The Gamblers first home game is Aug. 28 against the Wichita Flyers at LaFortune Stadium.



Rowe

Eufaula readies for Labor Day powwow

EUFALIA — The Eufaula Indian Community will host its seventh annual Labor Day pow-wow, Sept. 3 through 5 at the eastside ballpark complex on Eufaula Cove.

Dance contests, the crowning of the pow-wow princess, arts and crafts, a co-ed softball tournament, a domino tournament, and food concessions will all be available during the weekend event.

The staff for the pow-wow will include: Laverne Little Calf, Cheyenne-Kiowa, head singer; Billy Pews, Comanche, head man dancer; Kristy Alexander, Tonkawa-Ponca, head lady dancer; and Cassandra Barnett, Creek, 1993 pow-wow princess.

The host gourd clan will be the Shawnee Veterans Inter-Tribal Association. The arena director will be Bill Takes Horse (Crow) and Gary Gover (Pawnee). Stanley John (Navajo) will be the master of ceremonies.

The pow-wow begins Friday night with the grand entry at 8 p.m. and the crowning of Cassandra Barnett as the 1993 pow-wow princess. Contests for tiny tots and junior boys and girls will be during the Friday night session.

Tribe makes presentation for Childers statue

by Noah Long

BROKEN ARROW — Scott Graham remembers the pride he felt watching Ernest Childers return home after Childers had received the congressional medal of honor in World War II.

Since that time Graham has led a community-wide effort to erect a statue of Childers in recognition for his heroic feat in battle.

Graham's dream of a downtown park with the Childers statue moved a step closer with the presentation of a \$15,000 check from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to the Broken Arrow Rotary Club Foundation.

The funds for the Childers statue were appropriated by the National Council from unexpended bingo revenues.

Principal Chief Bill Fife made the presentation Aug. 2 to the club.

"You are one of our most important citizens," Fife said to Childers at the luncheon. "We are very proud of you."

Childers said he was honored by the gesture.

Childers was awarded the congressional medal of honor

for his effort in destroying two German machine gun nests, two snipers and for capturing a German soldier — all done without any ammunition.

"I was with the 180th Company C of the 45th Division," Childers said. "That was an all Indian company. We were all from Chilocco Indian School. The company on our other side was the 179th Company from Pawnee."

Childers, now 75 years old, lives in Broken Arrow and remains active.

Joining Fife in the presentation were Second Chief Shelly Crow, and National Council representatives Steve Bruner (Wagoner-Mayes-Rogers) and George Tiger (Okmulgee).



Childers

Omulgee Indian Community elects new chair

Omulgee District representative Charlie Litsey swears-in recently-elected Okmulgee Indian Community chair Etta Checotah. Betty Hogshooter (inset) was elected community secretary. photo by Stephanie Berryhill



Muskogee smokeshop opens



photo by Noah Long

The Muskogee Indian Community opened its smokeshop July 24 to coincide with the opening of Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo Hall. Shown are Diane Meeker, assistant manager and Jim Marrs, manager of the smokeshop, which is located at the entrance to the bingo hall at Peak Ave. and U.S. Highway 69. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation now has 32 smokeshops in compliance, said tribal tax commissioner Sam Alexander. Of the total number, 14 are independent operators and 18 are chartered communities.

On Saturday night, the senior ladies division competition will include the cloth, the buckskin, and jingle-Northern fancy shawl contest.

The Sunday night session will be the senior men's fancy, straight, traditional and grass contests. It is also awards night for all contestants.

Gourd dancing will begin at 2 p.m. each day.

The coed softball tournament will begin on Friday at the Eastside ball park. For information, call (918) 689-9579, 689-9570, or 689-5066.

The domino tournament will be at the Indian community and bingo hall on Saturday morning with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$5 and winners will receive food baskets. For information call (918) 689-9579.

In the arts and crafts display, items for sale will include beadwork, featherwork, paintings, drawings, jewelry, pottery, ribbonshirts and Seminole patchwork.

Food concessions will include fry bread, Indian tacos, burgers, ribs, softy, and more.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

AGGIE WHITSON

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Aggie Whitson, 75, were held July 15 at the First Baptist Church of Paden with Rev. Brett Allen officiating. She died, July 12 in Tulsa.

Whitson was born June 10, 1918 in Micawber. She was a member of the Paden First Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband Thomas Allen Whitson and three grandchildren.

Survivors include: five sons, Danny of Dallas, Tommy of Celina, Texas, Ralph of California, Russell of Altus, and Ronald of Prague; five daughters, Martha McAfee of Celina, Texas, Patricia Stover of Mangum, Paula Lively of Mangum, Claudia Whitson of Paden, and Sharon Henry of Welty; 56 great-grandchildren; several nieces; and nephews.

Burial was in the Grant Chapel cemetery in Welty.

RUTH McINTOSH

HASTINGS, Neb. — Funeral services for Ruth McIntosh, 63, were held July 23.

McIntosh died July 19 at her home. She was born April 16, 1930 in Muskogee to William and Alma (Rice) Arnold. She was preceded in death by: her parents; one brother; and one sister. She was a member of the Salvation Army Church and worked at Bosselman's Diner Cafe and the Manhattan Cafe.

Survivors include: one daughter, Theresa Wissing of Glenwood, Iowa; one son, Tye McIntosh of San Antonio, Texas; a sister, Mary of California; and three grandchildren.

Burial was in the Parkview Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Grand Island Goodwill Industries.

TYLER WAYNE HARJO

EUFALU — Funeral services for Tyler Wayne Harjo were held June 30 at the Merrit Funeral Home Chapel. Harjo was the seven-month son of Johnny Lee Harjo and Patricia Ann Laughlin.

Harjo was born on Nov. 1, 1992 in McAlester and died on June 26. Survivors include: his parents; one sister, Erica Laughlin; two brothers, Johnathan and Brett Harjo, all of the home; grandparents Christine and Robert Burns of Eufaula, Cecil and Peggy Carder of Okmulgee; one great-grandmother Hattie Harjo of Weleetka; several aunts and uncles; and a host of cousins.

Pallbearers were: Audie Laughlin; Martin Laughlin; Edgar Laughlin; and Bobby Harjo. Honorary bearers were Robert Burns and Shane Laughlin.

Burial was in the Lenna cemetery.

EDWARD BENSON

OKMULGEE — Funeral services were held for Edward Benson July 28 at the Church of Christ with Jack Way and David Inman officiating. Benson died July 26 in Okmulgee.

He was born March 11, 1904 in Okfuskee County to David and Kathryn Benson. Benson married Stella Jones Sept. 15, 1928. He was employed by Ada Milling Company, Ada, and Bailey Motor Company, Okmulgee. He was an original allottee and a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include: his wife, of the home; daughter, Paula Martin; son, Phillip Benson, both of Okmulgee; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was in the Okmulgee Cemetery. Pallbearers were: Charles Cargill; Kevin Copeland; Ted Kaltenbach; George Snow; Orval Spears; and Bud Turner.



photo by Noah Long

Muscogee (Creek) Nation principal chief Bill Fife presents a check for \$2,000 to the Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church. Accepting the check is pastor Rev. Julianne Judd and National Council representative Mose Cahwee, a member of the church. Pickett Chapel, located south of Sapulpa, intends to install a new roof with the donation.



photo by Stephanie Berryhill

United Methodist Church Northeast District youth officers discuss business at the recent youth camp. Pictured from left, are: president Mac Dowdy, Newtown; representative Chebon Kemell, John Kemell, both of Billy D. Hooton; and Nedra Thompson, Pickett Chapel, discuss youth activities at the Northeast District Youth Camp held July 25 through 28 at the Northeast District Center in Preston.

Religion briefs

Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association annual meeting

YARDEKA — The Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association will have its annual meeting Aug. 12 through 14 at the association's assembly grounds. The annual assembly begins at 12 p.m.

The MSW association business meeting will begin Aug. 12 and is to be completed during the Aug. 13 morning session.

The first evening sermon will be delivered by Rev. Mike McConnell, pastor Vian Creek Baptist Church. Service begins at 7:30 p.m.

Mission Fair '93 begins at 11 a.m. Aug. 13. The fair will present the role of the church in missions and will feature testimonies of mission workers.

The MSW association historical committee will recognize all of the member churches that are at least 100 years old beginning at 4:45 p.m. Aug. 13.

The Aug. 13 evening message will be delivered by Rev. Bill Barnett, pastor Indian Nations Baptist Church, Seminole.

The final day of the assembly will begin with devotions and hymn singing at 7:30 a.m. Breakfast will be at 8:30 a.m.

Northeast district Methodist assignments announced

OKLAHOMA CITY — Assignments of pastors in the Northeast District have been announced by Bishop Daniel Solomon during the final session of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, the United Methodist Church, held in Antlers, June 10-13.

District Superintendent, David Adair.

Church Assignments:

Bixby Circuit (Concharty, Davis Chapel, Hailey Chapel, Springtown): Newman Frank, Sr.;

Broken Arrow: Tim Byington;

Choska Circuit (Arbeka, Choska, Grant Chapel, Springfield): Jerry Baker;

Fife Memorial, Muskogee: Paul Samuels;

Honey Creek Circuit (Big Cussetah, Honey Creek, Little Cussetah): Jerry Byrd;

Kaney Chapel, Wewoka: Walter McGirt;

Mutteloke (Bristow): Richard Blackburn;

Newtown (Okmulgee): Sammy Chupco;
Pickett Chapel (Sapulpa): Julianne Judd;
Seminole Hitchite: Jackie Davis;
Tulsa Indian Church: Taylor Harjo;
Wetumka Circuit (Salt Creek, Thlophlocco) J.R. McGilbray;
Yeager Circuit (Thewarley, Wewoka, Yeager Mission): Stephen Floch.

Metro Baptists slate revival

TULSA — A Tulsa area tent revival and Indian crusade will be conducted by area Baptist churches, Aug. 16 through 20 at 1st and Rosedale.

Leslie Clark, pastor of the Bowen Indian Baptist Church, will be the evangelist with J.B. Dreadfulwater as the song leader and Wayne Harjo will be the pianist. The event begins at 7 p.m. nightly and is sponsored by the 13 area Southern Baptist Indian churches.

Okmulgee Baptist slates revival

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church will hold an "old time gospel preaching" Aug. 16-21 each night beginning at 7:30.

Howard Asbury will preach Monday and Tuesday night, Robert Washington is scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday and Harley Barnosti will complete the week Friday and Saturday nights.

The church is located one mile west of the Git-N-Go on West Eufaula Street in Okmulgee.

Tulsa Methodist host workshop

TULSA — Tulsa United Indian Methodist Church is hosting the Northeast District Sunday school resource workshop for Sunday school teachers beginning at 9 a.m. Aug. 14.

* A fund raising Indian taco sale will be held from 11 a.m. through 2 p.m., Aug. 14 also.

* The church board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 12:45 p.m., Aug. 22.

* A church-wide retreat will be held at Cookson Hills Community Center Aug. 27 through 28. For more information, call (918) 834-1956.

Gratitude

We would like to express our appreciation to the Creek Nation for the kindness shown to us during our time of loss. Thank you.

- The Edward Benson family.

Fife

continued from page 1

Fife said the construction of the Muskogee bingo hall by the Creek Nation Construction and Development Company was endorsed and supported by the National Council.

"This project proved that we can compete in the construction business and use our own Indian labor force. Who can argue with that? Some may have rather have non-Indians do the construction," Fife said.

"At that time, we anticipated some problems with construction because it was the first major job of the tribal construction company," Fife said.

Additional delays were the result of unreasonable rainfall.

"However, the experience that we gained in building the hall is invaluable. We also saved money on construction costs by doing it ourselves and we put a lot of Creeks to work."

Fife also noted that the hall opened July 24 to a full house.

Jess Kelley, chair of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board, said the Council and the board will certify the petitioners' signatures. The petition will then be presented to the tribal Supreme Court Chief Justice. The presiding justice will then decide if the petition complaints merit National Council consideration.

It will take a three-fourths vote (24 members) of the Coun-

Community gives confidence vote

TWIN HILLS — Principal Chief Bill Fife and his administration were given a "vote of confidence" by the Twin Hills Indian community.

The community voted 24-0 in support of Chief Fife said National Council representative A.D. Ellis. Ellis said there was no formal written resolution, but simply a voice motion and vote by a show of hands.

"The vote came up at our [July 27] meeting because of all the bad news the Creeks are getting over the petition to oust the chief and second chief," Ellis said. "A community member said we ought to give chief Fife and the administration a vote of confidence because they were voted in by the people for four years to serve and they ought to be given a chance."

cil for removal.

Those circulating the petitions will have until Sept. 5 to collect 2,421 signatures of registered voters which equals 20 percent of the electorate.

Marshall Hardin, a supported of the removal drive, said more than 3,500 voters have signed the petition, though that has not been substantiated. Hardin of Okmulgee, said the petitioners' goal is to have 8,000 signatures.

"The number of signatures does not reflect the validity of the allegations," Fife said.

Attempts to contact Morgan were unsuccessful.

"If there is a need for me to respond to any of these allegations, I will do so in the proper tribal forum at the proper time. Until then, I remain committed to serve and will continue to do the job the people elected me to do," Fife said.

Crow seeking reform

continued from page 2

We realize that President Clinton is basing some of his future plans for the states with the concept of decentralizing governments to the lowest level — the states. After reading the book *Reinventing Government*, this is a great direction.

One must realize there are politics even at most state levels and creation of programs must go even lower than the states — counties, cities, and tribal governments could better serve all Americans.

I would like for the governors' association to address the following questions:

- How do we build consensus for real health care reform?
- What can we learn from the efforts of states to redesign government and how can we expand the reform movement to every level of government?
- How do we motivate the public to support the kind of educational system we need for tomorrow's citizens?

Tough questions for all of us to answer. It appears that our tribal leaders have the same task before them to lead our citizens into the 21st century.

There is a cost to attend the conference. For more information, contact (202) 624-5330.

Council report

continued from page 3

- By unanimous vote (22-0) the council approved funding of \$80,000 to the orthodontic program from the bingo revenue account.

- The council approved \$20,000 from the dissolution of the Creek Construction Co. to remodel the Yardeka Community Center to house a nutrition program for the elderly. The bill had been tabled pending a budget on the renovation project.

- A \$50,000 home improvement bill was also passed.

The bill would allow up to \$2,000 for the repair of Creek citizens' homes. The funds are limited to those WHO meet income guidelines as currently used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development program and it does not include Creek Nation Housing Authority mutual help homes.

- A bill appropriating \$22,703 for capital improvements passed by a 20-2 vote. Principal Chief Bill Fife said the funds would be used to install a new roof at the Oakdale facility, improve the parking lot at the elderly housing project as well as general repairs on tribal property.

- A bill authorizing the donation of two surplus police cars to the Hughes County Sheriff's department.

- A bill approving the repeal and amending of election codes correcting a technical error and to post results of absentee ballots when counting is completed.

- The council also set dates for the regular and special sessions of the council, and they also established a new time for the planning session.

The planning session had been held 10 days prior to the council meeting, but a new bill amended at the meeting, calls for the planning session to be held the Tuesday before the council meeting. The bill passed by a 12-10 vote.

- The Edmond accounting firm of Arledge and Associates was approved to conduct the annual 1993 audit.

- The election board presented 10 names to be counters of absentee ballots.

They are Georgia Harjo and Louise King both of the Okmulgee District; Inda McGerrt and LaVerna Deere both of the Okfuskee District; Charles Lewis and Sharon Lewis both of the McIntosh District; Wesley Randall of the Wagoner District; Lela Goodman and Susie Lindsey both of the Hughes District; and Thurman Ragsdale of the Tulsa District.

Historic Creek Chief to be inducted in Hall of Fame

continued from page 1

and when I attended Bacone I wrote a thesis [about] him," Yahola said. His research gave Yahola the inspiration he needed to complete his education and to overcome obstacles in his life.

"He became a role model for me," Yahola said. "I received inspiration from his life."

Upon learning that no Creek has ever been inducted into Anadarko's National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians, Yahola contacted the board and requested the necessary forms to nominate Opothleyahola.

"I appeared before the board last August and presented material on Opothleyahola and I also presented a letter from Chief [Bill] Fife supporting the nomination," Yahola said. "The board then voted to induct Opothleyahola this year."

Yahola was then told he had to find the funding for a sculpture to create a bust of Opothleyahola. With support from Fife and National Council representative Thomas Berryhill, a bill was passed to allocate funds for the sculpture and two busts.

While one bust will be displayed in Anadarko, the second will be located at the tribal complex in Okmulgee with a possible fall installation ceremony.

Yahola is urging as many Tuckabatchee tribal town members to attend. Opothleyahola was a member of that town. Yahola requested any descendants to notify him for recognition.

Opothleyahola's leadership role started in the 1820's when he opposed the ceding of lands for removal. He was part of the council that ordered the execution of William McIntosh for signing the Treaty of Indian Springs — the removal act.

When forcible removal occurred it appeared the Creeks would go to war against the United States. However, he led a peaceful movement of the people to the Indian Territory in the 1830's.

"He was able to give time for the ceremonial grounds to move in the proper way to the Indian Territory," Yahola said.

Crow denies allegations

continued from page 3

the opportunity to present his health care model for the tribe. "[Lee] was impressed with the Creek Nation health care model," she said. It could result in the tribal health care model being used as a national pilot project — thus providing additional funding for tribal health care services, she said.

In February both Crow and Fife sent memorandums notifying National Council Speaker Clarence Cloud of her leave of absence. "If — at anytime — I am needed back at the tribe for emergencies, I will return immediately," stated Crow's letter to Cloud. "I made every effort to let people know I was going. I made every effort to see that my job was complete before leaving." Crow said she returned to the nation four times during the course of her 50-day leave.

Crow said the \$100 per day stipend she received from the tribe will be repaid by Sept. 30 — the last day of FY 93. As a member of the task force she cannot "double dip" as it is one of the stipulations she was sworn to by the U.S. Ethics Committee.

"It's very depressing because your sitting there fighting for your tribe and you've got people at home filing petitions. It reminds me of the Vietnam vets returning and some people did not welcome them home."

"If someone wants to get me out of office I wish they'd do it [during the 1995 election] so as not to disrupt the image of the tribe while we are trying to obtain state [gaming] compacting and grants. It's hard to ask for funding from Congress when the tribe has a bad image."

"There is a cemetery in Washington D.C., where Indian leaders went to D.C. to fight for their people. While in D.C., they died and never made it back. You don't read of any petition or removal while they were serving their people."

"Also, the president and vice president are coming to Oklahoma for the national governors' association meeting. Should we get up a petition to remove them?"

Letters

continued from page 1

do get the required amount of signatures then the council should take a good look at all the allegations.

I am not a hard person to find, so if anyone wants to know the truth then all they have to do is ask me, and not listen to rumors or make their decisions on the basis of whom I associate with or who they see me talking to.

I hear that I am supposed to be mad at Crow because of some silly incident. I am not mad, but you believe whatever you desire to believe. I am much more mature than that. I am available at anytime to answer any questions that you want to ask me. I can't promise to give you the answers that you want to hear because I have to be honest.

Felix Haynes, Okmulgee



The Muscogee Nation News

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September 1993, 12 Pages

Housing authority to begin \$4.8 million mutual help home remodeling project

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — More than \$4.8 million has been awarded to the Creek Nation Housing Authority to remodel existing mutual help homes, announced executive director Joe Jackson.

Jackson said the funds from a comprehensive grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will allow for the complete renovation of 114 homes this year. The funds will cover a five-year period in which the housing authority hopes will eventually renovate 1,400 of the mutual help homes in the Creek Nation.

The first homes to be affected by the grant are 13 which house disabled citizens, said Geri Berryhill, project director. Construction contracts are expected to be awarded by Oct. 1.

The 114 homes in this year's budget have already been identified through an assessment program conducted in 1992 by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Homes affected are those built in the early 1970s when the first housing authority homes were constructed.

Jackson said the eligibility requirements for the project are to be current in making monthly payments and/or have made pay back arrangements.

Homes that were paid in full prior to June, 1992 are not eligible for the program, Jackson said.

Renovation of the houses will correct construction or design deficiencies. In some cases, that work will include the correcting of foundations and complete remodeling.

"This is a one-time project," Jackson said. "Never have funds been allowed to repair these homes. This is a unique program and we will probably never have this kind of project again."

He said HUD has never allowed maintenance funds until the past year, when the grant became available.

"If anyone has any questions about the program they should call us and we will answer those questions," Jackson said.

Jackson said the program follows a systematic procedure required by HUD.

"We can't renovate homes randomly," Jackson said. "We must follow the proce-

Housing authority receives funding for 150 new homes

OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Housing Authority executive director Joe Jackson and chair of the board of commissioners Ken Childers, announced the funding of 150 new housing units by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"This funding award represents the culmination of many months of hard work and the joint effort on the part of the board of commissioners and the housing authority staff," Jackson said. "We are pleased that all our hard work has now reaped such great benefits for our organization and our people."

The housing authority currently has a waiting list of over 500 families for the mutual help homeowners program.

"This new allocation of housing will allow us to meet some of the tremendous demand for housing that presently exists throughout the Creek Nation," Jackson said.

The funding is the largest allocation of new housing units received since 1982 and it is the first since 1989.

The mutual help home ownership program allows families to buy homes from the authority. House payments are based upon their income.

"For many working families, this is the only opportunity to own a home."
please see HOMES..., page 9

dures HUD sets out and follow the plan we submitted in the grant proposal. If anyone has questions of any kind, our line of communication is always open."

Extensive renovation may require some residents to relocate. The housing authority will provide moving costs and for all relocation expenses.

"If families have to move out while their home is being remodeled, we will provide the money to move them into other tribal housing, public housing, or any other housing units," Jackson said. He said if families, or individuals decide to move in with relatives or other family members, the authority will provide living expenses.

Eugene Thomas, an eight-year employee of the housing authority, will be the modernization coordinator. Thomas will be responsible for the field work, inspection, and relocation of home owners.

Inspectors are expected to return to the homes identified in the first year of the program to reassess the work needed.

Homeowners with questions are urged to call the housing authority at (918) 756-8504.

"Our intent is to work with the homeowners," Jackson said.

please see REHABILITATION..., page 9



photo by Noah Long

This bust of Opothleyahola will be displayed at the National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians. See related story on page 4.

Tribal council filing begins

OKMULGEE — September 20 through 22 has been announced as the filing period to apply for candidacy of 36 Muscogee (Creek) National Council seats.

Candidates for the tribal Council must be:

- at least one-fourth degree, tribally enrolled Creek and/or Yuchi;
- a registered tribal voter;
- at least 18 years of age; and
- have lived in their district one year.

Filing declarations of candidacy may be made from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the tribal capitol complex in the Solomon McCombs Executive Office Building, election board office room 120. The capitol complex is located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

A \$100 filing fee in the form of a cashier's check, certified check, or money order must be presented at the time of filing.

Absentee ballot request forms have been sent out, according to an election board memo. The board instructs that absentee voters sign the forms where specified; unsigned forms will be returned for signatures. Request forms must be received by Sept. 29 in order to receive a ballot for the Oct. 23 primary election. Absentee voters who have relocated since the 1991 election should notify the board in order to receive an absentee request form.

For more information, call (918) 756-8700, ext. 350.

Letters to the editor

Reader seeks family information

Editor:

We are researching our family lineage and are requesting any information on the following people: Nathaniel Berryhill; G.W. Berryhill; Mary Berryhill; Foshee Berryhill; and Jerusha Berryhill Gibson.

We would like to hear from descendants if possible. Contact me at: 1523 W. Evergreen, Durant, OK 74701. Any and all information would be greatly appreciated.

Henry Berryhill, Durant

Reader wants cultural section

Editor:

The good news is I am part Creek Indian. The bad news is my grandmother, Thelma Thomas, granddaughter of Emma Perryman, passed away several years ago and took with her, her stories.

Unfortunately, living here in Nebraska, the only information about customs and traditions available to me are about the plains Indians. You can imagine how eager I am to read The Muscogee Nation News when it arrives.

After reading the two letters in your last issue that were directed at keeping the knowledge alive, it occurred to me — what about having a special section just for teachings? Just for story-telling?

This would be just another way to pass it on. I know to me the contribution would be immeasurable.

Barb Anglen, Omaha, Neb.

Editor's note: There are three difficult conditions that must be met before cultural items can be included in The MNN. One, a curriculum must be developed so that we can have measurable objectives and specific purposes for the items. Two, the authenticity of the cultural items must be established. Three, someone other than The MNN will have to assume such responsibilities. Be assured that the tribal cultural education department is working to utilize The MNN for cultural education.

Rotarians thank tribe for contribution

Editor:

On behalf of the Broken Arrow Rotary Club and the citizens of Broken Arrow, I want to thank the Muscogee Nation for your \$15,000 contribution to the Ernest Childers Memorial Fund. As I believe you are aware, that puts us within \$35,000 of our goal, and I believe shortly we will be able to announce another gift in the amount of \$10,000.

As you know, Jay Morrisey is working on the landscape plan for the park and work has already begun by the City of Broken Arrow to clear the park area for landscaping.

The significance of your gift is of such importance to our endeavor that it makes me unequal to the task of expressing my appreciation. It goes to the very roots of our community, and the history, and the nobility of the Creek Nation.

I shall keep you informed as to future events and look forward to participating with you in the unveiling of the statue when it comes to fruition.

Scott L. Graham, Broken Arrow

LEGAL NOTICE

Anyone having information concerning the whereabouts of Major Sam Johnson, heir of Lucy Scott (Creek Roll No. 922), please contact: J. Anthony Miller, 1709 S. Carson, Tulsa, OK 74119, or by phone at: (918) 585-9950.

Reader counters McIntosh death

Editor:

This refers to Vol. 22, Issue 7 of *The Muscogee Nation News* (July 1993), and specifically to the article on page three relating to achievements of Opothleyahola. I take exception to the remark that alludes to the assassination of William McIntosh as a noteworthy accomplishment.

It appears with every generation someone feels it is essential to cast aspersions on the character of William McIntosh, now deceased for 168 years.

Opothleyahola, in my opinion, was a leader of considerable merit and certainly due recognition. He also had his share of bad moments, which are a matter of public record. Consider his trip to Washington D.C., as an emissary of his people, instructed to persuade the government to reverse their stand and allow all Creeks to stay on their homesteads. Failing this, he was so disconsolate as to attempt suicide in the hotel room. Failing this also, he and the legendary Menawa ended up riding alongside the federal troops, men whom they detested, to root out their blood brother Seminoles from the Florida swamps for the forced removal west. At least Menawa had the courage to say he was sorry for his part in McIntosh's death and that it was a mistake. In retrospect, just what did slaying McIntosh accomplish?

William McIntosh was a man of vision when he signed the 1825 Treaty on behalf of the Lower Creeks. He was selling off his property to head west when killed. It took 170 brave warriors to do this, including the pillage and burning of the home.

It was the McIntosh faction, who came first in 1828, that fed the starving Muscogees on their arrival in the 1830's.

How sad that it is not known where Opothleyahola resided in Indian Territory so a historical marker could be placed, and equally sad no one knows where his grave lies so a fitting monument could be installed.

Chinnubbie McIntosh, Hominy

Moore couple looking for art works

Editor:

For many years we have researched the customs and cultures, myths, magic, and folklore of the American Indian. The chiefs, warriors, medicine men, and women, healers, artists, and storytellers have always been fascinating.

We design a lot of American Indian art and hope it reflects some of our knowledge and heritage of the American Indian. Since we are retired we have decided to sell some of our work.

We would like to contact individuals in your area that would be interested in selling us, wholesale, any finished products of American Indian art or of southwest design. We would also consider selling on a consignment basis. We don't know how to obtain a list like this.

We are fairly new to this business and are interested in any information about newsletters, powwows that offer arts and crafts booths, trading posts in your area, and a list of addresses of other tribes in Oklahoma.

Please feel free to contact us at: (405) 799-3533 or write, 716 Woodhollow Lane, Moore, OK 73160.

Bob and Susan Weaver, Moore

Tulsa police chief thanks tribe

Editor:

On behalf of the Tulsa Police Department, I want to take this opportunity to thank Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo for the generous and heartfelt donation to the camcorders for cops effort. As you know, this program was initiated by Gloria DeMier after the murder of officer Constantine George "Gus" Spanos.

The loss of this fine officer deeply affected the citizens of Tulsa, as evidenced by the overwhelming response we

have received. It is our hope that equipping patrol vehicles with camcorders will increase the safety of our officers and serve as a deterrent to criminal activity in Tulsa.

Thank you again for the generous contribution to this worthwhile cause.

Ronald Palmer, Tulsa

Silver Springs pastor thanks tribe

Editor:

We received your most generous gift of \$2,000 for renovation of some of our facilities. Your generosity will enable us to make some much needed repairs to our entrance drive and construct the parking lot we have sought for so many years. Additionally, it makes possible the completion of our classroom building project which will divide it into three separate rooms and replace the roof.

We will comply with your requirements and mail receipts for the repairs when all projects are completed. We will also provide photos of the finished products.

We wanted to take this opportunity to say thank you for your thoughtfulness and assistance. We welcome all of you to join us in one of our Sunday services.

Rev. A. J. Tiger, Dewar

Editor's note: Tiger is the pastor of Silver Springs Baptist Church.

Former board member writes thanks

Editor:

Because my term is expiring, I want to say thank you to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Principal Chief Bill Fife for giving me the opportunity to serve the Creek people on the tribal election board for the past year and one-half. Throughout my term, we as an election board and staff have accomplished many tasks. The updating of tribal elections has been made possible through the use of modern technology via automated voting machines for the fall election of National Council representatives.

I appreciate the dedication and moral support received from fellow board members and office staff. I wish the present election board and staff success in the years to come.

Jesse F. Kelley, Tulsa

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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Tribal affairs briefs

Fife elected to museum board

MUSKOGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife has been elected to serve on the executive committee of the Five Civilized Tribes Museum.

Fife and the chiefs of the Five Civilized Tribes also have agreed to serve on the board, said Marty Hagerstrand, board president. Fife will serve with Hagerstrand, vice presidents Eddie Jeffries and Betty Whitehorn, treasurer Sue Gaston, assistant treasurer Gloria Schumann, and secretary Lucille Wilcoxen.

The board has been in turmoil in recent months regarding museum operations and administration, but Hagerstrand expressed hope that the new organization of the board will improve matters. Among the major changes made are that different board members will chair the various committees and all checks must have two signatures.

Skeeter hired as tribal economic planner

OKMULGEE — Andrew Skeeter has been named economic developer, planner-specialist for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Skeeter will be responsible for exploring, locating, and engaging industries for the Creek Nation.

"The Creek Nation is in prime position to land major industries, and I'm glad to become a part of this venture," Skeeter said. "My role is to look for business opportunities for the tribe."

Skeeter said the involvement of the National Council and the administration make the Creek Nation a prime candidate for new industries.

"Having both levels of government working together with the National Council and the administration involved in the process puts the Creek Nation in position to look at new economic ventures."

Skeeter, a native of the Duck Creek area, is a graduate of Liberty Mounds High School and 1964 graduate of Northeastern State University with a business administration degree.

He has worked as an accountant and most recently operated his own certified public accounting firm in Tulsa.

He has also worked with various Indian tribes in South Dakota, Minnesota, New Mexico, Arizona, and Oklahoma.

Hughes District representative ouster sought

HOLDENVILLE — A petition seeking the removal of Hughes District National Council representative L.C. Franks has been filed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board.

The officers of the Holdenville Indian Community filed the petition intent with the election board on July 30. The petition requires 301 signatures by Oct. 30 to begin the removal process.

The petition lists one complaint against Franks. It alleges Franks has been passing a petition calling for the lifting of the community's charter and that the Holdenville center be closed.

"We feel his action to close the Holdenville center violates his duties and responsibilities to the Creek citizens of Holdenville and Hughes County as well as all citizens of the Creek Nation," said Mitchell Musgrove, Holdenville community chair.

Franks was elected to the Council in 1991. Attempts to reach Franks for comment were unsuccessful.



Skeeter

Resolution Trust Corporation seeks American Indian buyers for homes

KANSAS CITY — American Indians are being targeted for home ownership through a special program by the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC).

The RTC has the congressional responsibility for selling properties from failed savings and loans throughout the country. Single family housing units are included in the liquidation.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has become a main participant in the RTC home ownership program and has arranged to host a buyer awareness program for Indian citizens.

Bonnie M. King, executive director of Chelsea Affordable Housing, Inc., Kansas City, which serves as a technical assistance advisor for the RTC, has a goal of selling 130 homes in Oklahoma.

King, a member of the Osage Tribe of Oklahoma, is launching a massive marketing campaign to help families and individuals purchase homes.

"There are 130 homes for sale in Oklahoma valued at \$67,500 or less for low-to-moderate income families," King said. "Through our buyer awareness program we can show Indian people how to buy these homes."

Three live auctions are scheduled in Oklahoma during September. The first will be held Sept. 23 in Tulsa, followed by an auction in Oklahoma City Sept. 28. The third will be in Lawton on Sept. 30. A sealed bid auction will be held Oct. 5.

Buyer awareness seminars at all three locations will be conducted prior to the auctions.

The Tulsa seminar will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 13 and at 1 an

7 p.m. Sept. 21 — all at the Sheraton Kensington Hotel.

The Oklahoma City buyer awareness seminar is scheduled for 7 p.m. Sept. 24 and 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sept. 27. The Lawton seminar will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 20 and at 7 p.m. Sept. 29 at the Howard Johnson Hotel.

King said the main purpose of the program is to target the type of buyer that didn't think he or she could buy a home. Those individuals and families with low-to-moderate incomes are often priced out of the market.

"If people have bankruptcy or if they're single mothers with children, we may be able to help them buy a home," King said. "[Resolution Trust Corporation] loan underwriting standards are often more flexible than many banks and savings and loans."

"We know that American Indians have little or no knowledge of how to make a bid or how much to bid on these homes, so we will be conducting buyer awareness seminars that will teach potential buyers how to make a bid and how to determine how much to bid," King said.

Potential buyers must have \$500 in earnest money to place a bid. Those who are successful in the bidding will apply the \$500 to the down payment. Down payments range from three percent to five percent of the sales price. Resolution Trust Corporation offers fixed rate financing to purchase a home. Resolution Trust Corporation is providing up to 30-year loans at seven and three-eighths percent interest to qualified buyers.

For more information, call Chelsea Affordable Housing at: 1 (800) 252-8900.

Fife vetos upheld, Head Start bill postponed

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Principal Chief Bill Fife won three of four vetos, the Head Start program was put on hold, and Muscogee (Creek) Nation voters will have a chance to trim the size of the National Council in the future.

All those matters were decided upon by the National Council during its regular monthly meeting Aug. 28.

The only veto measure that survived council voting was a measure for the appointment of Gaming Operations Authority Board members.

Fife said the measure failed to amend another section of the bill that states board members commissioned by the Chief shall have no vote in meetings until confirmed by the Council. Fife said such a measure could mean the gaming board may not have a "fully functioning board."

Two other vetos that withstood the council vote also involved the gaming industry.

One veto stopped the Council from creating a new authority with similar duties as the gaming operations authority board. The motion to override the veto failed by five votes, 17-9. A vote of two-thirds of the council members (22) is necessary for an override.

The final veto to survive prevented the dissolving of the Gaming Operations Board. The council voted 18 for the override of the veto and eight to let it stand. A vote of 22 was necessary for the override.

However, the two bills regarding dissolving the board and the creation of a new board will be reconsidered at the September regular meeting.

The final veto measure to stand concerned the posting of absentee ballot results. Chief Fife said an early posting of the absentee results before the polls are closed would have undue influence on voters.

The council voted 25-0 to allow the veto to stand.

With a crowd of over 100 parents and children, the Council voted to table a bill outlining the policy and procedures for the Head Start program.

Tulsa District representative Larry Bible presented the motion to table the Head Start proposal. He urged both sides of the issue, the Head Start parent policy council and the tribal administration, to meet and reach a compromise before the Council votes on the issue.

The Council passed the motion to table the Head Start measure by a 23-2 margin. Bible, nor the Council, set a specific time for the parties involved to bring a compromise measure back to the Council.

A bill to reduce the number of National Council representatives easily passed by a 22-3 margin, paving the way for the bill to be on the ballot of this year's election.

However, if the bill passes by a two-thirds margin from the voters, it would go into effect in two years — the 1995 election.

The measure is a constitutional amendment requiring the two-thirds majority by the National Council and a vote of the people.

The new bill allows for one house, and one representative from each of the eight districts, and one additional representative for each 1,100 citizens. That amends the present bill, which allows one additional representative for each 1,000 citizens.

Under the proposed measure, a cap of 26 representatives would be set. There are 31 representatives currently. This year, voters will elect 36.

Under the current policy, Okmulgee and Tulsa will elect seven representatives each this year, followed by five from McIntosh, four each from Creek, Okfuskee, and Hughes, with the Muskogee and the Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes elect

Opothleyahola inducted into hall of fame

story and photo by Noah Long

ANADARKO — Opothleyahola's spirit was rekindled among his people when his name was added to the National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians on Aug. 22.

The legendary leader of the Muscogee people was inducted into the hall by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief Bill Fife, tribal National Council representative Thomas Berryhill, and by a descendant, Thomas Yahola of Wetumka.

Yahola's son, named after the Muscogee leader, Ophoth had the honor of unveiling the bronze bust of his namesake.

Speaking before over 100 Muscogee citizens and guests at the induction, Yahola recanted stories and legends of Opothleyahola.

"The Creator had blessed Opothleyahola because there was much for him to do for his people," Yahola said. "He had a tremendous burden to bear, but with the help of Epofvnkv (Great Spirit) he did. Through a vision he had as a medicine man, he knew where to move his people, even though he never saw the Indian Territory before."

Yahola said today the Muscogee people still carry on the traditions that were made during the years of the removal.

"He knew we had to re-establish our tribal towns in the new land and he wanted to make the move in the proper way," Yahola said of the re-establishment of tribal towns.

"As Muscogee people we can say that Opothleyahola is the father of our country," Yahola said. "Because he re-established our towns and he wrote documents for unity among our people."

Wearing a white crane feather in his hat, Yahola said the feather is a Muscogee peace symbol.

"I wore the white crane feather in my hat when I came before the [hall of fame] board last year and requested Opothleyahola be considered for this honor," Yahola said. "I told the board I come in peace of the Muscogee people."

In his remarks before the audience, Fife praised Opothleyahola's desire to unite the Muscogee people.

"He spoke of unity," Chief Fife said. "He was responsible for uniting our Muscogee people and he knew what



Legendary Muscogee leader Opothleyahola was enshrined into the National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians, located in Anadarko. Thomas Yahola, a descendant and leader in installing Opothleyahola into the hall, gave the honor of unveiling the bust to his son, Ophoth Yahola.

the Civil War would do to our people."

Also making remarks was Berryhill, who introduced the principal guests at the induction, which included: tribal town members; ceremonial ground members; National Council members; Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marva Jackson; and descendants of Opothleyahola.

In a final tribute of Muscogee tradition, John Proctor smoked the statue of Opothleyahola in calling upon Epofvnkv to bless the monument.

Opothleyahola becomes the 37th American Indian to be inducted into the National Hall of Fame for Famous Americans.

Menominee member named Indian affairs secretary

WASHINGTON — Ada Deer was confirmed as the U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs by the U.S. Senate Aug. 20.

The former Menominee tribal chair was sworn in by Interior secretary Bruce Babbitt after the Senate confirmed her nomination.

She is the first woman assistant secretary for Indian affairs and the sixth to fill the post, created in 1977. All past appointees have been American Indian.

The Wisconsin native and enrolled member of the Menominee tribe told members of the committee that Indian policy must be coordinated closely between the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of the Interior, other cabinet departments and the White House.

"To this end, secretary Babbitt has reached an agreement with the White House Domestic Policy Council that it will assume an active role in coordinating administration policy initiatives to benefit American Indian people," Deer said.

Deer has endorsed the self-governance demonstration project and publication of the regulations implementing the 1988 Public Law 93-638 amendments that have been in the making for five years.

She also endorsed the Native American Free Exercise of Religion Act and she also talked about the BIA.

"We must remember that the bureau was created by non-

Indians," Deer said. "It has not been a pro-active Indian institution. I want to activate and to mobilize people in the bureau so that they can be creative and forward-looking."

Deer said Indians constitute 90 percent of the employees in the BIA.

"I want the Indian values of sharing, caring, and respect incorporated into their day-to-day work," she said. "I want to help the BIA be a full partner in the effort to fulfill the Indian agenda developed in Indian country."

Indian commission to print directory

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission is finalizing the Oklahoma Native American Talent Directory. The pictorial directory will list actors and actresses of all ages, technicians, and cultural consultants. The information will then be marketed to local, state, national, and international entertainment industry agencies and individuals.

Eligibility requirements include a completed 1993 application form, a notarized "release of information" form, an 8 by 10 inch black and white photo, and a copy of the applicant's certificate of degree of Indian blood (CDIB) or tribal enrollment card. Applicants can submit a written request for a kit from the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission at: 4545 N. Lincoln, Suite 282, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 or by phone: (405) 521-3828 or (405) 525-2154.

In brief

Names of Muscogee veterans sought

OKMULGEE — Two armed forces veterans are compiling a list of Creeks and Yuchis who served in the armed forces.

Muscogee (Creek) National Council representative Steve Bruner and Jim Burgess, Kiowa, have started the task of gathering the names with hopes of creating a display or exhibit in their honor.

Names of those who served in the armed forces can be submitted by the veterans or by family members and friends.

Names with the serial number, Social Security number, branch of service and rank, dates of service, name, and phone number of the person submitting the information are requested.

The information can be sent to Burgess at: 420 E. 20th St. Okmulgee, OK 74447 or to Bruner at: 1113 W. Utica Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74011.

Telephone calls will also be accepted. Burgess can be reached at: (918) 758-1417 and Bruner at: (918) 455-9686.

Sapulpa Indian heritage powwow set

SAPULPA — The 20th Annual Sapulpa Indian Heritage Day Powwow will be Sept. 25 at the Creek County Fairgrounds, five miles west of Sapulpa on U.S. Highway 66.

The powwow is sponsored by the parent committee, staff, and students of the Indian education program of Sapulpa Public Schools.

The event begins at 2 p.m. with gourd dancing, followed with a traditional meal at 5 p.m., and the powwow grand entry at 7 p.m. Arts and crafts exhibitors are welcome. Donations will be accepted, but exhibitors must furnish their own tables and chairs.

Tulsa library to hold Indian festival

TULSA — Among the events scheduled during the Native American Festival at the Tulsa City-County Library are two events of interest to Muscogee (Creek) citizens.

At 7 p.m., Sept. 24 Joy Harjo will lecture and read her writings. She is a Tulsa native and a member of the Creek tribe. The event will be at the central library at 4th St. and Denver Avenue.

On Sept. 28, a performance by the American Indian Dance Theater will be held in the Chapman Music Hall of the Tulsa Performing Arts Center.

Bartlesville powwow set

BARTLESVILLE — The Sixth Annual Inter-tribal Powwow will be held Sept. 18 on the grounds of the Bartlesville Community Center. The powwow is a major event of the Indian Summer Festival, a community project of Bartlesville.

The youth division of the powwow will begin at 1:30 p.m. and the adult division begins at 7 p.m. There is no admission charge and spectators are urged to bring lawn chairs. Troy Littleaxe, coordinator, announced the following staff for the powwow.

Mike Shawnee, Quapaw-Shawnee-Delaware of Tulsa, will be the head southern singer; Little Soldiers Singers of Mayetta, Kan., will be the head northern drum; Curtis Zunigha, Delaware-Isleta Pubelo of Tulsa, is the master of ceremonies; Quannah Littlesun, Choctaw-Pawnee of Bartlesville, is the princess; Corey Shawnee, Shawnee of Tulsa, is the junior head dancer; April Donnell, Delaware of Bartlesville, is the junior lady dancer; Guy Ray, Pocawatchit-Comanche-Pawnee-Shawnee of Wichita, is the head man dancer; Judy Bender, Shawnee of Norman, is the head lady dancer; and Kay Thompson is arena director.

Muscogee students have active summer

Ashley Adams

GARLAND, Texas — Ashley Adams, a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, was selected as a youth exchange student to Australia. Through People to People International, a non-profit organization founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956, she chose the science exchange program. She said she intends to consider marine biology as a career choice.

She traveled to Sydney and was able to study marine life at the Great Barrier Reef. Adams will be an eighth grade student at Sunnyvale School in Mesquite this fall. She is active in volleyball, basketball, and track.

As an adopted daughter of Carolyn and Rodney Hetzel, Adams and her family are researching her family background in an effort to locate relatives of Muscogee decent.

"I'm interested in learning more about my heritage," Adams said during a visit to the tribal capital complex in Okmulgee. She and her family attended an inter-tribal pow-wow in Tulsa before returning home.

Tiana and Crystal Woodward

SHAWNEE — Two Creek students, Tiana and Crystal Woodward, have earned academic honors at the Pleasant Grove School in Shawnee.

Tiana carries a 4.0 grade-point-average and has been in the top five percent of her class and on the superintendent's honor roll for the past three years. She was also selected the most athletic in the second grade for the 1992-93 school year.

She has also been selected as a finalist in the 1993 Pre-Teen Oklahoma Scholarship and Recognition Program, which was held in September at the Sheraton Kensington Hotel in Tulsa.

The program is an invitation only scholarship and recognition event involving girls ages 7 to 12 years, ranking in the top 10 percent of the state academically.

The pre-teen award amounts to over \$5,000 in educational bonds, prizes, and awards.

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council is one of her sponsors.

Crystal also attends Pleasant Grove School where she has been on the principal's honor roll for the past five years and a starter on the basketball team in the fifth and sixth grades. She was also on the track team and was the all-around athlete for two years. She received the Presidential Physical Fitness Award.

She attends Crossroads Cathedral Assembly of God in Oklahoma City.

Both are the children of Randy and Verbena Woodward of Shawnee. Maternal grandparents are the late Robert and Amanda Fields Deer and paternal grandparents are George

and Anne Woodward of Layton, Utah. Their great-grandmother is Stella Deer of Coweta.

Nicole Farris

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Nicole Farris, a 1993 Mustang High School graduate, will be attending the University of Evansville (Indiana) this fall, in the pre-medical field.

Farris was an all-state catcher in softball in 1993. She also received Oklahoma City Metro All-Conference honors in 1991-92, outstanding defensive player in 1992, and was all-district and all-conference catcher in 1992.

She is the daughter of Randy and Jackie Farris of Mustang, and the granddaughter of Josie Mitchell.

Sherry Mitchell

OKLAHOMA CITY — Sherry Mitchell of Okmulgee, has been accepted into the physical therapy program at the college of allied health at the University of Oklahoma's Health Science Center.

Mitchell was one of the 78 students accepted into the program from 385 applicants. Selections were based on grade-point average, writing ability, Nelson-Denny test scores and interviews.

She is a 1991 graduate of Okmulgee High School and has completed her second year at OU.

Mitchell is the daughter of Thomas and Elaine Mitchell of Okmulgee and the granddaughter of the late Rocky and Margaret (Canard) Mitchell. She is a great-granddaughter of the late Roly Canard, who served as Muscogee Principal Chief from 1935 to 1939.

Melanie Seaton

OKEMAH — Melanie Seaton has been selected to attend Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics for the coming school year.

Seaton, who is an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, will be a junior at the school in Oklahoma City. Seaton was one of 300 juniors throughout the state to apply for the school and one of 88 selected.

The school is reserved for students with high academic standings and aptitudes. The school requires a 4.0 grade-point-average and a score of 23 or higher on the American College Test.

Students in the OSSM attend classes five and one-half days a week for nine hours a day and are required to attend a one-hour study hall three nights per week. There are no extracurricular activities. In addition, the senior year counts as college credit.

"A lot of people don't understand why I would want to give up my friends and social life," said Seaton. "What they don't understand is that I have a lot of dreams and this is the best way to achieve them."

She is the daughter of Gary and Teresa Turbeville of Okemah and the granddaughter of Paul and Hannah Dodson and Gary E. and Lavon Turbeville, all of Okemah.

Jeremy Lunsford

OKMULGEE — Jeremy Lunsford has been named an all-American scholar by the United States Achievement Academy.

He was also named a winner in the field of science and leadership service by the USAA.

Lunsford attends Okmulgee Middle School and is the son of Curtis and Connie Johnson Lunsford. His grandparents are Minnie Johnson of Okemah and Bernice Watson and Curtis Lunsford Sr., both of Bristow.

Omulgee Middle School teacher Fran Colombe nominated Lunsford for the honors. His picture will appear in the USAA official yearbook, published nationally.

All-American scholars must maintain a 3.3 or better grade point average to be considered.

Education briefs

University of Oklahoma to host Indian visitation day

NORMAN — Information about the variety of academic programs, support services, and campus activities to American Indian students at the University of Oklahoma will be showcased during American Indian Visitation Day Sept. 25.

American Indians who are juniors and seniors in high school are encouraged to attend the day's activities, which are free of charge with the exception of lunch.

Registration will be from 9 to 9:30 a.m. at the Boyd House, 407 W. Boyd St., followed by a tour of the campus. From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., information sessions will be held in Dale Hall, 455 W. Lindsey St. Following the sessions, participants may purchase lunch in Couch Cafeteria for \$4.50.

The OU athletic department has provided a limited number of seats for students who participate in the morning's activities for that afternoon's homecoming football game between the Sooners and the University of Tulsa.

For more information, accommodations on the basis of disability or to pre-register, call OU's Office of Prospective Student Services at: (405) 325-2151 or 1 (800) 234-6868.

Center for developmentally disabled enrolling for classes

NORMAN — Fall classes are available at the J.D. McCarty Center for children with developmental disabilities.

The school is a residential therapeutic treatment center for children with cerebral palsy, mental retardation, and other types of developmental disabilities.

Services available include special education, physical, occupational, speech, social, psychological, music, and recreational therapy in addition to medical, nursing, and dietary services.

For information, contact the social services department at: (405) 321-4830 or toll free at 1 (800) 777-1272. Letters may be addressed to: 1125 E. Alameda, Norman, OK 73071.

Haskell Institute (Junior College) school alumni reunion set for October

TULSA — The annual Haskell school reunion has been set for Oct. 8 through 10 at the Tulsa Ramada Inn, U.S. Interstate 44 and Yale Avenue.

All Haskell alumni and friends of Haskell are urged to attend.

For more information, contact Norma Jo White at: 401 N. Manning, Stillwater, OK 74075.



Adams



Farris



T. Woodward



C. Woodward

Muscogee birthdays

Courtney Rae Rogers

TULSA — Courtney Rae Rogers, daughter of Tommy Joe and Treasa Rae Rogers, celebrated her first birthday on July 27.

She is the granddaughter of Aileen and the late Joseph Rogers of Tulsa, and the granddaughter of Mildred Willis of Tulsa.



Rogers

Katie Rena Factor

OKMULGEE — Katie Rena Factor was born July 24 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Edward and Lisa Factor of Okmulgee.

She weighed 7 pounds, one and one-half ounces and was 19 and one-quarter inches long at birth.

Maternal grandparents are Jessica Torres and Dean Tiger. Paternal grandparents are Sam Factor and Roberta Gardener.



Factor

Verland Ober Coker

KANSAS CITY — Verland Ober Coker was born April 2 to Katrina Coker of Kansas City and Verland Edwards of Arizona. Wilbert Coker is the maternal grandfather.



Coker

Tierra Deanna Deere

CLAREMORE — Tierra Deanna Deere was born May 29 to Jaulice Watson and Kelly Deere of Sapulpa. The paternal grandparents are Christine Roberts of Okemah and Dean Deere of Broken Arrow. Maternal grandparent is Lechita Watson of Sapulpa.

Deere has one sister, Tia Dawn, of Sapulpa.



Holloway

Eastman Grady Holloway

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, Texas — Eastman Grady Holloway was born May 20 to Mr. and Mrs. Eastman Richards Holloway.

He weighed six pounds and nine and one-half ounces and was 21 inches in length.

He is the grandson of Esther Holloway of Tahlequah and the late Grady Holloway. He is the great-grandson of Leona Fox of Checotah and also the grandson of Toinette Reavis of Tahlequah.

Community news

compiled by Noah Long

Holdenville plans annual meeting

HOLDENVILLE — Plans are being made for the regular annual meeting on Oct. 9 at which time the activity report will be made for the year.

Prior to the annual meeting, the regular meeting will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 21. The executive committee will meet on at 7 p.m. Sept. 28.

Elders who had birthdays during the months of July and August were honored recently. A total of 35 citizens attended the birthday party.

Seven community members attended the enshrinement of legendary Creek leader Opothleyahola, held in Anadarko. Several of those attending are members of Tuckabutchee Town, to which Opothleyahola belonged.

Twenty-four Holdenville youth that participated in the Creek festival olympics in June. It was the first time young people from the community took part in the olympics. Plans are now being made for the 1994 festival.

Dustin breaks ground for community center

DUSTIN — Ground has been leveled for construction of the community center building.

The National Council awarded \$25,000 to the chartered Indian community to construct a 30 by 60 foot building to serve the Creek citizens of the Dustin area.

Glenpool continues classes

GLENPOOL — Interest in Creek and Yuchi language classes continues among the area citizens. Classes are held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Thursday. The classes are free and the public is invited. The community meeting is held at 6 p.m. every second Tuesday of the month.

Koweta planning grand opening

KOWETA — Plans are being made for the grand opening of the community gift shop. Work is progressing on the

shop, which is adjacent to the smokeshop. A manager will soon be hired to operate the gift shop.

A back-to-school cookout was held Aug. 13 with several students, parents, and community members in attendance.

Kellyville fund raiser successful

KELLYVILLE — Funds for the community were raised during a benefit professional wrestling event held in July. A good turnout of spectators was reported.

Wilson has logo design contest

WILSON — A contest to design a logo for the Wilson Indian Community is underway.

A \$50 prize will be awarded to the winning entry. All entries must be turned in to the Wilson smokeshop by Sept. 13.

All entries must show the colors of the logo, which reflects the image of the community. The Wilson Indian youth council will select the top 10 entries; the final decision will be made by the community board.

Bristow youth program

BRISTOW — Area teenagers were the counselors to children in the community this summer.

In a unique summer work program at Bristow Indian Community, 11 youths, ages 14 and 15 years old, were in charge of 25 children, ages 4 to 12 for a four-week period.

"Not only are the young people provided jobs for the summer, but they are given responsibility," said Trish Cury, director of the program.

Cury said the youths are in charge of the children must provide supplies and establish time frames for each activity and see that the smaller children get to their pickup point when the day's activities end.

Moores observe anniversary

MORRIS — Kenneth and Loraine Moore will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary from 2 to 4 p.m., Sept. 11.

A reception will take place at the Masonic Building, 317 S. Hughes in Morris.

They were married on Sept. 12, 1943 in Jackson, Miss. Both retired from the Chilocco Indian School June 15, 1980 and have lived in Morris since.

Children of the couple include: a son, Randy; daughters, Shanon and Kara, all of Tulsa, and Elizabeth of Arkansas City, Kan. She is married to Ron W. Palmer; they have one child, Nicolette.

The Moores invite their friends to attend the celebration.



The Moores

Okmulgee women's softball team wins national tournament

INVERMERE, British Columbia — The Okmulgee Indian Community Women's Fast Pitch Softball Team recently captured the National Indian Fast Pitch Championship.

Sponsored by OIC, the team rallied from the loser's bracket in the double elimination tournament to defeat Santa Rosa, Calif. 2-1 and 10-0 for the championship, completed early Sunday morning, Aug. 22.

The OIC team placed three players on the all-tournament team, including pitcher Carol Dawson, who was named most valuable player of the tournament. Dawson is a graduate of Preston High School and also played collegiate ball at Northeastern A&M and Northwest Missouri State University. Named to the all-tournament team were Debbie Burgess, centerfield, and Robyn White, catcher, head coach Charley LaSarge said.

Prior to the national meet, the OIC team won three tournaments and placed second in the Oklahoma All-Indian Fast Pitch Tournament, held in Oklahoma City. They captured tournament titles at Bristow, Sooner State, and the Creek Festival. They received second place in the Oklahoma City meet, where they incurred two losses.

LaSarge said the last time the Okmulgee team played in a national tournament was in 1988 when they took runner-up honors. That tournament was played in Albuquerque, N.M.

"These girls have been playing together for four or five years," LaSarge said. He has been coaching the team for three years, two in succession.

The team was the only team from the central section of the United States entered in the tournament.

"The only people from Oklahoma were those of us who rode in four vehicles," LaSarge said. "But, we had people rooting for us in that final game."

The team raised funds from donations and various benefits to make the 40-hour drive to British Columbia.

The long trip played a role in the first loss of the tournament. They dropped a 2-1 decision to Bishop, Calif. After that game OIC rolled past Oshweken, Ontario 6-

Muscogee obituaries

THOMAS LEE TIGER

TULSA — Funeral services for Thomas Lee Tiger were held June 2 at the Garden City Baptist Church with Rev. Howard Turney officiating.

Tiger died May 31. He was born in Tulsa and attended Tulsa Public Schools and Sequoyah Indian School, where he served as vice president of his senior class in 1973.

He was employed by the Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital before attending the Tulsa Barber College. He owned and operated Mr. Wayne's Hair Designing, located at 7th and Boulder in Tulsa until his death.

He is survived by: his wife Sabrina; a son, John M. Tiger; his parents, Tom and Lucille Tiger; four brothers, Gerald of San Antonio, Texas, Jackie, Don, and Dan, all of Tulsa; one sister, Elizabeth Spencer of Tulsa; many relatives; and friends.

Burial was in the Robertson Cemetery, south and east of the Graham School, south of Henryetta. Rev. Bill Alexander and his son Jimmy conducted the Indian graveside service.

RICHARD GIBBS

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Richard Gibbs, 43, of Sapulpa, were held July 27, at the South Heights Baptist Church.

Gibbs was born June 5, 1950 in Sapulpa to George Hunter and Mollie Grayson Gibbs. A lifelong resident of Sapulpa, Gibbs was employed by Tulsa Regional Medical Center as a surgery medical technician while attending nursing college at the University Center at Tulsa, Langston campus.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army having served during the Vietnam era. He married Rita Ann New and was a member of South Heights Baptist Church where he was active in the bus ministry.

He was preceded in death by: his father George Gibbs Sr.; and one daughter, Rachel Gibbs.

Survivors include: his wife; mother, Mollie Gibbs of Sapulpa; sons, James and George Gibbs; daughter, Romana Gibbs, all of the home; brothers, John, Robert, Leon and David, all of Sapulpa, Sandy, George, and Jack, all of California; sisters, Mona and Mary, both of Sapulpa; and two grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Michael Gibbs; Douglas Gibbs; Leslie Gibbs; Deon Gibbs; Clint New; Aaron Dunn; and Bill Rice. Burial was at the South Heights Cemetery.

TYLER WAYNE HARJO

EUFALIA — Funeral services were held June 30 for Tyler Wayne Harjo, seven-month-old son of Johnny Lee Harjo and Patricia Ann Laughlin.

Harjo was born on Nov. 1, 1992 in McAlester and died on June 26, 1993. Survivors include: his parents; one sister, Erica Laughlin; and two brothers, Johnathan and Brett Harjo, all of the home. Also surviving are: grandparents, Christine and Robert Burns of Eufaula, Cecil and Peggy Carder of Okmulgee; one great-grandmother, Hattie Harjo of Weleetka; several aunts; uncles; and a host of cousins.

Pallbearers were: Audie Laughlin; Martin Laughlin; Edgar Laughlin; and Bobby Harjo. Honorary bearers were Robert Burns and Shane Laughlin.

Services were conducted at the Merritt Funeral Home of Eufaula, with burial in the Lenna cemetery.



Harjo

Greater Muscogee churches report

Thlophlocco United Methodist children's day

THLOPHLOCCO — Thlophlocco United Methodist Church has scheduled Sept. 5 as children's day.

The day's activities will begin at 11 a.m.

The church is located eight miles south of Okemah on state highway 27 and 8 miles west of Wetumka on state highway 27.

Country Camp Meeting dates set

WEWOKA — Country Camp Meeting '93 will be held Sept. 8 through 11 at the Hill family homeplace.

The evangelists are: Franklin Hill, Pine Ridge, S.D.; Famous Cochran, Thomas Town; Alex Lowe, Claremore; and Everett Thompson, Livingston, Texas. Services will begin at 7:30 nightly.

Afternoon services will be held at 2 p.m. Breakfast and supper will be served daily. Camping and bathing facilities are available.

For more information, contact Jennie Trevino at (405) 257-6448 or Franklin Hill at (605) 867-5366.

Deep Fork Hillabee singing and hog fry

ONAPA — Deep Fork Hillabee Baptist is holding an outdoor hog fry and gospel singing Sept. 11.

The hog fry will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the gospel singing following at 7:30 p.m.

To get to the church, take the Onapa road exit off U.S. Highway 69. Drive west to the access road, one mile north, and one-fourth of a mile west.

For more information, contact Unity at (918) 251-4936.

Salt Creek Methodist Church gospel singing

WETUMKA — Salt Creek United Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing at 7:30 p.m., Sept. 11.

Al Brown and Ada Harmonettes will emcee the singing.

The church is located eight miles north on state highway 48 and two miles east of Holdenville or seven miles west on state highway 9 and two miles south of Wetumka.

Billy Hooton Methodist begins Sunday school program

OKLAHOMA CITY — Billy Hooton United Methodist Church will be implementing a church Sunday school program for preschool and elementary school children Sept. 12. Church worship and children's Sunday school services both begin at 11 a.m. Church communion services are held on the first Sunday of each month. The church is located at 2444 N.W. 1st Terrace.

Pickett Chapel Methodist to host breakfast

SAPULPA — Pickett Chapel United Methodist Men are holding a breakfast for church members and guests from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m., Sept. 12.

Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and Oklahoma Conference Bishop Dan Solomon will be delivering the 11 a.m. worship service on Sept. 26.

From the intersection of Taft and Hickory streets, the church is located four and one-half miles south on Hickory Street.

Newtown United Methodist slates board meeting

OKMULGEE — Newtown United Methodist Church is holding a church board meeting at 7 p.m., Sept. 7.

The main topic of discussion will be re-roofing the church building and church fund raising events.

Newtown will hold its communion service and fellowship dinner Sept. 26. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and the service will begin at 11 a.m. The church United Methodist Women will hold their monthly meeting and program immediately following the fellowship dinner. Carol

Belter will be leading the program.

To get to the church, turn west at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56 in Okmulgee. Drive west to the stop sign and then south to the intersection of Okmulgee and Eufaula streets. Follow Eufaula Street three miles until the road curves north. The church is located one mile from the bend, on the east side of the road.

Grant Chapel United Methodist schedules singing

WELTY — Grant Chapel United Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing at 7 p.m., Sept. 18. A food sale will begin at noon. The church is located five miles south of state highway 48 and Welty and one mile south.

Northeast District Methodist Women annual meeting

PRESTON — At 9 a.m., Sept. 18 the Northeast District United Methodist Women will hold their annual meeting at the Northeast District Center. The district center is located one mile east of Preston and U.S. Highway 75.

Arbeka Methodist church reunion set

ARBEKA — Arbeka United Methodist Church has scheduled its annual church reunion on Sept. 25.

To get to the church take the Wewoka exit off Interstate 40. Drive north on state highway 56 to the Okfuskee County line. Continue driving north for one mile and then west for one half a mile.

Mutteloke United Methodist schedule

BRISTOW — Mutteloke United Methodist Church holds Sunday school and church services each Sunday. Sunday school begins at 10 a.m. and the worship service starts at 11 a.m.

The church's communion service and fellowship dinner is held on the first Sunday of each month. Sunday evening services are held at 6 p.m. each Sunday with the exception of first Sundays.

The church is located at Tejon and Poplar streets.

Hillabee Baptist reports successful Bible school

HANNA — The Hillabee Indian Baptist Church recently hosted vacation bible school for 42 children.

A mission team from the First Baptist Church of Battle-field, Mo. conducted the Bible school, which resulted in six professions of faith.

The Rev. Jimmy Anderson arranged for the Missouri church to conduct the bible school.

Hillabee also hosted a community gospel singing on the first Sunday of the month. The singing event is held at various churches in the Hanna area.

Hillabee conducts a Sunday school at 10 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m. each Sunday.

Hillabee Baptist compiling church directory

HANNA — The Hillabee Baptist Church is compiling a list of all church members. Anyone who is a member of the church and has not been contacted should notify the church through Mrs. Stella Simpson, 9114 E. Latimer Place, Tulsa, OK 74115.

Members may also bring their address to the church, which continues to meet despite rumors of its closure.

Other church news on page 11.

Submit your church or religious news to:

The Muscogee Nation News

P.O. Box 580

Okmulgee, OK 74447

Methodist minister retires after 39 years of service

by Stephanie Berryhill

Those who know Rev. Thomas Long III would agree that he is — in many ways — a legacy of sorts.

He is legacy to a family name, church, and ministry — a 39-year ministry from which he retired June 11.

Historically, Long's home church — Salt Creek United Methodist Church — has produced many ministers. His father and grandfather were ministers. As they both pastored Salt Creek, Long did also. He credits his predecessors, the church teachings, and members as having an influence on his decision to enter the ministry.

Although holding close ties to the church, Salt Creek members were not supportive of his decision to preach at what was considered an early age — 29.

"When I came in [the ministry] — if you were young — the older ones would kind of look down on you."

Around the era Long received his license to preach, the support of Methodist church elders was vital. Long received his license in 1954 — when Salt Creek was hosting the annual conference. Long credits Thlophlocco church member Emma Scott for seeing promise in his future as a minister. "At first, Salt Creek turned me down. She's the one that spoke up for me and that's how I got my license to preach. So I've done my best not to fail her — with that in mind I've served 39 years. She was a lovely woman; I always appreciated her."

Long attended Cooks Christian Training School in Phoenix, Ariz. His first appointment was to the Honey Creek Circuit.

He had hopes of serving his first appointment at his home church, however he was forewarned.

"They say you shouldn't accept [your first] appointment at your home church because they know you like a book." He eventually served one of his longest pastorates at Salt Creek. "They put up with me for six years," he joked.



Long

Long credits retired Springfield minister Turner Tiger for offering support and advice. "The funniest thing happened at Springfield — they didn't have a clock, so I asked him (Tiger) 'what time do I quit?,' and he said 'you see that shade pass that porch — that's time to quit.'"

Among some of his other church appointments were: Mutteloke; Claremore; a Wichita, Kan. church; Newtown; and Pickett Chapel. Long also served as superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference West and Northeast districts. As Long oversaw the churches of both districts, he realized there were distinctions between different Indian cultures. Long noted that Western Oklahoma Indians cling to traditional social activities such as pow wows — thus resulting in closed church doors during the summertime. "You just don't preach against their beliefs — you go with them so far, but eventually later on in life they [realize the error of their ways]."

Long contends there is less participation and discipline in the church today. He attributes the lack of church attendance to a younger generation that has had to leave rural areas in order to find jobs. "Once they move off to the city they never come back." Certain services have become shorter in length, some are barely thriving to continue. Long remembers when churches routinely held a fasting day before each fourth Sunday. The fasts included prayer, the denial of food, and a testimonial service. It was one way to obtain more faith in God and overcome worldly things, he said. "Some of [the churches] still try, but it's usually just the organizations — the United Methodist Women. It's usually the women that try to keep it going."

All night services consisting of singing, preaching, and testimony were also a source of spiritual strength.

Predominantly English hymns are sung in some Muskogee churches now. "They weren't singing too much



photo by Mary Sunny

A young Rev. Long in the pulpit of Honey Creek church with daughter, Karen.

English songs when I first came [into the ministry], but we don't have too many Creek singers anymore."

Coming full circle, Long's last appointment was to the Honey Creek Circuit. Upon retiring he placed his name on Honey Creek church's membership role. Long said his decision to join the church was strongly influenced by the memory of a Honey Creek church member who passed earlier this year — the late Mattie Long, his wife of 43 years.

Afflicted with heart disease shortly after her death, Long said his illness is not the reason for his retirement. He and his wife had planned his retirement previously, he said. "I never thought it would be like this."

Long said he has been sustained by his faith and the prayers of family and friends. "People kept calling and asking about me and how I was — it's great to know I had people's support. Without their help, I don't know what would have happened."

Baptists conclude 118th annual associational meeting

YARDEKA — The 118th Annual Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association Annual Meeting concluded with the election of officers and a change in management of the assembly grounds.

The theme for the annual meeting was "Hope for Hurting Humanity", taken from the New Testament book of Acts, said Alan Colbert, MSW association director of missions.

Colbert said the main item of business was transferring the assembly grounds management to an executive committee and a business manager.

"We want the grounds to be self-supporting," Colbert said. "It will still be under the control of the MSW association, but the decision making for use of the grounds will be left to the committee."

A five-member committee has yet to be selected.

The annual sermon was delivered by Mike McConnell, Vian Creek Baptist Church. The mission challenge was given by Colbert and the closing message was preached by Bill Barnett, Indian Nations Baptist Church.

Colbert said one of the most inspiring messages was given by George Jesse, Spring Baptist Church, on the role of the church in the world. Colbert said Jesse stressed the importance of the church to return to the strong faith, endurance, and prayer life that characterized early Indian Christians.

The first associational hall of fame award, in honor of any person, or couple, who through the association, has helped establish or supported church work was presented. It was given posthumously to John McIntosh, the first missionary to the Wichita Indians. McIntosh, 1833-1906, met the Wichitas in 1874. The award will be kept at Big Arbor Baptist Church where McIntosh was a member.

Associational officers for 1993-94 and their home churches are:

- Willis Knight, moderator, Little Cussetah;
- Geneva Colbert, clerk, Tuskegee;
- Ernest Marshall, treasurer, Monesoma;
- George Jesse, pastoral ministries, Spring;
- Dan Culley, Sunday school director, Spring;
- Byar Beaver, discipleship training, Okfuskee;

- Millie Colbert, music ministry, Weogufkee;
- Dan Coachman, brotherhood director, Sand Creek;
- Naomi Bear, women's missionary union director, Tookparfka;
- Kenneth Loma, evangelism director, New Arbor;
- George Jesse, stewardship chair, Spring;
- Francis Culley, missions development director, Spring;
- Jenna Loma, Christian life, New Arbor;
- Brenda King, family care ministry, Montesoma;
- Sam Jones, newsletter publisher, Gracemont Mission;
- Rose Knight, prayer coordinator, Little Cussetah; and
- Angela Fish, youth director, Sand Creek.

Eleven churches were represented with 63 messengers present.

Association dates: Oct. 16, second annual training conference, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Rock Springs Baptist Church, Anadarko. Emphasis on outreach through church organizations.

Nov. 20, MSW executive board meeting, 9 a.m., Indian Nations Baptist Church, Seminole.

Tribal vision program focuses on program details

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation offers a good eye care package to citizens, but sometimes it seems to come wrapped in a ribbon of red tape says the health director.

"We want these programs to help people, not frustrate them," said Edward F. Mouss, Director of the newly organized division of health administration.

"There has been some confusion recently about how to receive services from the Creek Nation Eye Clinic in Okemah and programs administered by community health representatives (CHR) programs," Mouss said. "We'd like to clear up some of the misunderstandings about what is available, and tell people how they can use the Creek Nation vision services with less hassle."

Mouss said what people perceive as red tape doesn't have to be a barrier that blocks them from services.

"This so-called red tape usually consists of the forms or procedures we have to follow to initiate and track program services," he said. "We can't entirely eliminate red tape from the system because we have to be accountable to our funding sources. Otherwise our programs won't continue to be funded."

Mouss said in the August issue of *The Muscogee Nation News*, readers were told about purchasing eyeglasses at reduced cost through the Okemah eye clinic, and about CHR vision programs. "But we didn't go far enough in instructing our citizens what they need to do before they show up for their appointment or how to apply for CHR vouchers."

All enrolled citizens are eligible for free eye exams at the Creek Nation Eye Clinic, which was opened as part of the Okemah Indian Health Clinic in December 1992. Appointments may be scheduled by phoning the clinic at (918) 623-1688, or by visiting the office, which is located across the street from the hospital, at 304 N. 14th Street in Okemah.

The most efficient way of making an appointment is to go by the eye clinic in person, and set up a chart at the same time Mouss said. Before the optometrist can see patients, a chart must be established at the Okemah Clinic.

To establish a chart, patients must provide their certificate degree of Indian blood card, Social Security card, second form of identification, and insurance information, if any.

"A chart has to be established at each Creek Nation Health facility used," Mouss said. "Even if you have been seen at the hospital emergency room or other Creek Nation or Indian Health Service facilities, a chart still has to be established at the Okemah Clinic before being seen at the eye clinic."

"If it is not possible to set your appointment in person, patients should arrive at the Okemah Clinic (located behind the hospital) at least an hour early, so that the medical records staff will have time to prepare a chart," Mouss said. The clinic provides a beneficial service to patients by ordering glasses and contacts at cost, direct from manufacturers. In turn, manufacturers require payment in advance by money order, cashier's check, or voucher.

The clinic optometrist does not receive a commission on the sale of these products. The tribe, however, does benefit when citizens spend CHR vouchers at the facility.

"It's simple arithmetic. When the cost is low, tribal dollars go further because we can buy more glasses and serve more people," Mouss said. "The CHRs administer two tribal vision programs which are funded by bingo revenues appropriated by the National Council."

One tribal program provides eye care for enrolled Creek school children. A second provides for other citizens (with elderly citizens receiving priority) who meet income and other eligibility guidelines. A third vision program for elder citizens administered by the CHRs is funded through a federal grant.

Before CHR vouchers for eyeglasses can be issued, the following must be met:

- file an application (available at the CHR Office at 1008 E. Eufaula Street, Okmulgee);
- the application must be reviewed and approved by

Housing authority to build 150 new homes

continued from page 1

nity they may ever have to own a home of their own," Childers said. "I commend everyone involved for their hard work and commitment to providing a better life for their fellow Creek citizens."

The 150 units represents a potential investment of \$10 million in the eight-county area of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The majority of the housing will be developed through new construction, but some will be through the acquisition of existing homes currently on the market.

The housing authority currently administers 1,434 homes under the mutual help homeownership program as well as 328 rental units in four apartment communities.

The main office is located on the tribal capitol complex at the intersection of U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56 in Okmulgee. The phone number is (918) 756-8504 or toll free, 1 (800) 259-5050.

Home rehabilitation to begin

continued from page 1

urged to call the housing authority at (918) 756-8504.

"Our intent is to work with the homeowners," Jackson said. "If they have any questions about the program, they should call us."

In addition to home improvements, the grant will allow the housing authority to construct a new office building and the purchase of vehicles for field visits by authority employees.

the CHR manager; and

— funds must be available.

At the end of August, CHR eyeglass funds were still available for the elderly and for school children. Fiscal Year 1993 funds for eligible citizens between the ages of 18 and 49 have been exhausted. However, if reappropriated by the National Council, funds may be available after October 1.

Applicants must provide the following documentation to apply:

- CDIB card (children must have CDIB card in their own name)
- Social Security Card
- income verification for adult applicants (Social Security verification or recent payroll stub) Note: the children's program is exempt from income guidelines
- Tribal citizenship card (for children and elderly tribal programs)

Applicants must also:

- reside within Creek Nation boundaries;
- present statement from an optometrist that glasses are needed, or if glasses are already in use, provide the name and address of your optometrist;
- Children must be enrolled in school (grades K-12);
- Elderly applicants must be age 50 or older; and
- Applicants must not have received assistance from any other IHS optometry program within 12 months prior to the date of application.

It takes about two weeks to process the applications and issue vouchers. Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you have questions about establishing a chart or applying for CHR eyeglass programs, contact the eye clinic or CHR office (918-756-8700, ext. 375). If you are unsure whether or not you have a chart established at the Okemah clinic, call the clinic medical records staff at (918) 623-1424, ext. 372.

Artist to show work at Creek Council House Museum



photo by Noah Long

Jackson Narcomey will have an art show Oct. 2 through 30 at the Creek Council House Museum. Narcomey has been painting professionally since 1968 and has received a number of awards from various shows in Arizona, New Mexico, South Dakota, and Oklahoma. The painting displayed in the photo is entitled "Prayer for Peace" and it has been donated to the museum for sale during the show.

Notices

Reclamation bureau expresses mission regarding Indian trust responsibilities

WASHINGTON — Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Daniel P. Beard announced a new policy designed to protect Indian trust assets from adverse impacts of reclamation programs and activities.

"The Bureau of Reclamation has a shared responsibility in protecting the rights of Indian tribes," Beard said. "The new policy will help us to assess and mitigate potential impacts on Indian trust assets."

Indian trust assets are legal interest in property held in trust by the United States for Indian tribes. Such assets include lands, minerals, hunting and fishing rights, and water rights. The trust responsibilities require that all federal agencies take all actions reasonably necessary to protect trust assets.

KBEZ radio station offers two positions

TULSA — Radio station KBEZ is interviewing for two sales positions. One position is for an experienced radio or related media salesperson.

The other position is for an aggressive local sales manager with at least five years experience in radio or related media experience. The easy-listening FM station is interested in minority applicants. Call (918) 496-9336 for information or to arrange appointments for interviews.

Council votes to reduce its size in 1995

continued from page 3

If voters approve the proposed constitutional amendment in 1995, the number of representatives will be five each from Okmulgee and Tulsa, three each from McIntosh, Creek, Okfuskee, and Hughes, and two each from Muskogee and Wagoner-Rogers-Mays districts.

The bill was introduced by Bible. He cited the increasing costs of the Council and the concerns voiced by several citizens as the reason he introduced the bill. Representatives are paid \$800 per month for their service, plus \$75 for committee meetings and mileage.

In other business, concerns over the administration of the Johnson-O'Malley program were raised when the bill to allow the recontracting of the program from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation came before the Council. The Council voted to approve the recontracting by a 17-8 margin.

Olkuskee District rep. Mae Jackson said parents and program coordinators have told her the tribal JOM program allows only 60 cents per student, compared to \$1 per student when the BIA operated the program.

Jackson also said JOM employees are working without fringe benefits.

Human development director Abe McIntosh, who has administrative responsibility for the program, admitted less money was allocated because the BIA allocated less money. Regarding fringe benefits, McIntosh said the public schools should be providing them since the JOM workers are school employees.

Ken Taryole, JOM program manager, said while there are more students enrolled, there is not any more money allocated for the program, thus creating the shortage of funds per-student.

The program served 8,515 students last year and it expects 9,000 or more this school year.

How
They
Voted
Page 11

A close vote was recorded on a measure to exempt the BIA Branch of Credit program from the self-governance compact. Council Speaker Clarence Cloud, who is also president of the Muskogee County Indian Credit Association Board of Directors, urged the Council to exempt the credit program from self-governance in an Aug. 17 letter to representatives. The letter said the exemption would be in the best interest of Indians residing within tribal jurisdiction. The Council voted 14 to 10, with one abstention, to exempt the program.

The bill allows the BIA to continue to administer the credit and finance program. Under the self-governance compact, the tribe would have operated the program.

In other business, approval of an oil and gas pipeline right-of-way for \$1,000 was granted to authorize the BIA to process the documents with Sonat Exploration Company over tribal land in McIntosh County.

The Council also approved a contract between the tribe and the City of Muskogee for the purchase of a sewer system for the bingo hall facility.

Rejected was a bill to add two committees to the National Council. The bill to add an internal affairs and a fact-finding committee was defeated.

Items approved include:

- a position statement on issues relating to the U.S. Department of Labor's proposed regulations for Job Training Partnership Act Indian programs, which request consultation before any regulations are enacted;
- modification of the elderly nutrition program budget;
- the confirmation of Rocky McIntosh as gaming commissioner; and
- confirmation of Kennan Wayne Phillips and Kenneth Moore, both to the tribal election board.

Communities report summer activities

continued from page 6

Among the activities were story telling from the elders in the community, Creek language, Indian arts, talks from the Lighthorsemen, child abuse programs and visits to local agencies such as the fire station.

"The younger ones look to them (teenagers) as role mod-

Okmulgee team womens' champions

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4, Magic of Good Fish, Alberta, 16-0, Vancouver by an 8-2 margin, and then a 1-0 win over the Native Americans of California to reach the championship round.

In the first game of the championship round, Burgess hit a two-run double for a 2-0 lead in the top of the ninth inning. The OIC team then limited Santa Rosa to one run in the bottom of the ninth for the 2-1 win. Okmulgee then scored two runs in the first two innings of the final game and rolled to the 10-0 win for the title.

The OIC team isn't finished with the season yet. They will enter the National American Indian Athletic Association fast pitch tournament Sept. 11 and 12 in Oklahoma City.

LaSarge expressed his thanks to those who contributed to the team for the trip to Canada. He said donors of \$100 or more had their names printed on a jersey of a player. They were able to gather 17 game jersey donors.

Those contributing for the jerseys were: Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo; Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo; Okmulgee Indian Community; Eufaula Indian Community; Yardeka Indian Community; Wilson Indian Community; Garrett

els," Cury said. "This program has been a big success and I'm proud of the kids. This program builds friendships and it gets the young people involved with the smaller children."

The community received a tribal block grant for the program to provide the jobs to the youths.

Law Office; Charlie Ruth Ford; Star Collectables; Kelco; Duke's Office Supply; Principle Office; Creek Nation Festival Committee; Bacone College; Phillip Morris, Co.; Sportee; Morris News; Floyd Jones; Ron Kleghorn; Charlie Litsey; Phillips Truck Service; 1st National Bank of Okmulgee; Okemah Indian Community; Dick Childers; and Karen Long.

The team dedicated the season to Long, a former team member, who retired from the team because of cancer.

Team members making the trip were: Bonita Berryhill, third base; Serene Hill, right field; Debbie Burgess, centerfield; Robyn White, catcher; Genell LaSarge, leftfield; Sidney Long, first base; Dee Ann O'Neal, shortstop; Sebrina Smith, second base; Mimi Johnson, designated player; and Carol Dawson, pitcher. Also on the team were Monica Johnson, Jamie Burgess, Jessica Rabbit, and Lynette Record.

Coaches were LaSarge, Butch LaSarge and Bill Record.

The team is hoping to defend their title next year. Oklahoma City and Palm Springs, Calif. are both vying as the host site for the 1994 tournament.

Northeastern offers bilingual education training program

TALEQUAH — Northeastern State University's Bilingual Education Center offers an educational personnel training program known as the rural education academic leadership program.

The master's degree program is funded by a Title VII grant from the office of Bilingual Education and Minority languages affairs, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

The program is for training teachers who serve in schools which have high enrollments of limited English proficient Muscogee (creek) and-or Cherokee children in northeastern Oklahoma.

The training emphasis is in science, math, language arts, native language, and culture. Fifteen participants will be selected for the 1993-94 academic year. To qualify for the program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. certified teacher currently employed in a school which serves a significant population of Muscogee (Creek) and-or Cherokee children in one of the following counties: Adair; Cherokee; Creek; Delaware; Hughes; Mayes; McIntosh; Muskogee; Okfuskee; Okmulgee; Sequoyah; Tulsa; and Wagoner;

2. eligible for admission to NSU graduate school and degree or certification program;

3. undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or better, or a Miller's Analogies Test score of 35 or more, or a Graduate Record Exam composite score of 900 or more; and

4. career commitment to working in schools with high enrollments of Creek and-or Cherokee students.

First priority in selection will be given to elementary teachers, second to secondary teachers who teach math, science, language arts, or native language and culture. All other educational personnel will be considered after these two categories have been screened. Applicants of American Indian descent with certificate degree of Indian blood will be given preference, although this criterion is not a requirement to qualify. Participants will enroll in a minimum of six credit hours during the fall, spring and summer terms of this year-around program and will attend additional training seminars, conferences, and field trips.

For more information, contact the Bilingual Education Center at: 600 N. Grand, NSU Box 80, Tahlequah, OK 74464, or call, (918) 456-5511, ext. 4180.

Message from Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Over the course of the next year, my position will allow me to witness many events and I feel it is a great privilege to be able to pursue this goal. I would have never thought it possible without their support and I am thankful for the confidence that has been bestowed upon me and for the tremendous opportunity that now awaits.

I feel fortunate to still be able to take part in so many cultural events. I feel a deep reverence for our Muscogee culture and have supreme admiration for those that still practice our traditions. Time has not diminished our culture, nor identity as a people. An enormous debt of gratitude is owed to our elders who have fought to maintain our cultural identity and our heritage. I only hope that my generation can do as well.

— Marva Jackson, delivered Aug. 6.

Education

Religious briefs

Lowerys to host gospel singing

HENRYETTA — A gospel singing will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 11 at the home of Elsie Lowery.

The Bales Family and the Bob Waters Band from Stilwell will be the featured singers with Jes Hair as the master of ceremonies. All singers are welcome to participate and everyone is urged to bring lawn chairs.

The Lowery residence is located off Interstate 40, exit 237. Drive south five miles to Bryant Community Church and south to the end of the road. From the west, take the 231 exit off Interstate 40, turn south, and follow the signs. For more information, call Lowery at: (918) 652-9719; or Pauline Long at: 652-3237.

Kaney Chapel hosts gospel singing

WEWOKA — Kaney Chapel's annual gospel singing will be held Oct. 1, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Paul Samuels will be the master of ceremonies for the event. The church is located between Wewoka and Bowlegs on state highway 59.

Oklmulgee Indian Baptist has Thursday services

OKMULGEE — Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church reported a successful revival Aug. 16 through 21. The church is still holding services Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30 p.m. with a prayer and song service. Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. and worship service follows at 11 a.m. Robert Washington is the pastor. The church is located one mile west from the corner of West Eufaula and Okmulgee streets on West Eufaula.



photo by Noah Long

Standing on a new roadway are Creek Nation Housing Authority executive director Joe Jackson, Minnie Buster, and Principal Chief Bill Fife. The roadway was constructed by the housing authority for Buster, who had been walking 200 yards from the road to her home because her drive had washed out. She lives one mile north of Wetumka Lake. The Thlophlocco Construction Co. built the roadway, complete with a tin-horn to allow water flow through.

How they voted — results from the August regular session

OKMULGEE — How the Muscogee (Creek) National Council voted during the regular session, Aug. 28, 1993.

Those absent from the meeting were: Wilson Bear, McIntosh District; Thomas Berryhill and Harvey Gilroy, Okmulgee District; Don Cahwee, Tulsa District; and Alexander Thomas, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District.

NCA 93-126 - Adopting policy and procedure to guide and direct the Head Start Program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Motion by Larry Bible to table bill: For 23, No 2.

For: Roy Bear, Mose Cahwee, Earl Wheeler, Darrell Coachman, L.C. Franks, Dwayne Lowe, Sandy McIntosh, Tommy Newton, Tom Pickering, Helen Chupco, Charlie Coker, Eugene Birdcreek, Mae Jackson, Wynema Roberts, A.D. Ellis, Jim B. Harjo, George Tiger, Larry Bible, Irene Cleghorn, Loretta Kelly, Okema Randall, Steve Bruner, Richard Berryhill.

No: Clyde Johnson, Charlie Litsey.

NCA 93-103 - Veto of an ordinance repealing NCA 92-118 and amending NCA 89-84 (method of appointing Gaming Operations Authority Board). Motion to override veto: For 21, No 5.

For: Wheeler, Coachman, Franks, Lowe, McIntosh, Newton, Pickering, Chupco, Coker, Birdcreek, Jackson, Johnson, Roberts, Ellis, Harjo, Litsey, Tiger, Kelly, Randall, Bruner, Berryhill.

No: Bear, Cloud, Cahwee, Bible, Cleghorn.

NCA 93-115 - Veto of an ordinance creating the Muscogee Nation Gaming Authority. Motion to override veto fails (22 votes needed). For 17, No 9.

For: Wheeler, Franks, McIntosh, Newton, Pickering, Chupco, Coker, Jackson, Johnson, Roberts, Ellis, Litsey, Tiger, Kelly, Randall, Bruner, Berryhill.

No: Bear, Cahwee, Coachman, Lowe, Birdcreek, Harjo, Bible, Cleghorn, Clarence Cloud.

NCA 93-111 - Veto of an ordinance dissolving the Gam-

ing Operations Authority Board. Motion to override fails, For 18, No 8 (22 votes needed).

For: Wheeler, Franks, McIntosh, Newton, Pickering, Chupco, Coker, Birdcreek, Jackson, Roberts, Ellis, Litsey, Tiger, Kelly, Randall, Bruner, Berryhill.

No: Bear, Cahwee, Cloud, Coachman, Lowe, Harjo, Bible, Cleghorn.

NCA 93-53 - Veto of an ordinance amending an election code allowing for the posting of the result of absentee ballots when counting is completed. Motion to allow veto: For 26, No 0.

NCA 93-118 - Approval of oil and gas pipeline right-of-way for \$1,000 for five-year term with Sonat Exploration Co. For 25, No 0.

NCA 93-119 - Approving the sanitary sewer purchase contract between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the City of Muskogee for the Muskogee Bingo Facility. For 23, No 2.

No votes: Pickering, Kelly.

NCA 93-120 - Authorizing the Principal Chief to enter into, sign, and execute the recontracting of the FY 1994 JOM program from the BIA. For 17, No 8.

For: Cahwee, Wheeler, Lowe, McIntosh, Newton, Pickering, Chupco, Coker, Birdcreek, Jackson, Johnson, Harjo, Litsey, Tiger, Cleghorn, Kelly, Bruner.

No: Bear, Coachman, Franks, Roberts, Ellis, Bible, Randall, Berryhill.

NCA 93-122 - Exempting the Credit and Finance program from the self-governance compact. For 14, No 10, Abstain 1.

For: Cahwee, Cloud, Wheeler, McIntosh, Newton, Pickering, Coker, Birdcreek, Johnson, Ellis, Harjo, Litsey, Cleghorn, Berryhill.

No: Bear, Coachman, Franks, Lowe, Chupco, Roberts, Tiger, Kelly, Randall, Bruner.

93-123 - Proposal amending Article VI, Sec. 2 of the

Area briefs

Seminole Nation Days set

WEWOKA — The 25th Annual Seminole Nation Days will be held Sept. 10 through 12 with events to occur in various locations in Seminole County.

Highlights include: Sept. 10

- princess pageant, 7 p.m., Jeff Johnston Auditorium, Seminole Junior College;
- historical dramatization, 7:30 p.m., Mekusukey Mission Tribal Grounds;
- traditional stompdance, 9 p.m., Mekusukey Mission Tribal Grounds.

Sept. 11

- volleyball, fastpitch, coed softball, and mixed bowling tournaments, 8 a.m., Mekusukey Mission;
- annual parade, 10 a.m., downtown Seminole;
- demonstrations, all day, Mekusukey Mission; and
- flag raising, chief's address, 1 p.m., Mekusukey Mission; and
- traditional Seminole dinner, 6 p.m., Mekusukey Mission.

Sept. 12

- gospel singing, 3 p.m., Mekusukey Mission.
- The gospel singing begins a week-long gospel crusade at the Mekusukey Mission.

Florida Seminole tribal members are also expected to attend Seminole Nation Days.

For more information, contact: (405) 257-6691 or the Seminole Nation Communications Department at: (405) 257-6343.

Clarification

The August edition of *The Muscogee Nation News* reported that National Council representative Pat Kelly (Tulsa) had made statements favoring the parent policy legislation on the Head Start bill at the July Council session. However, Kelly said she was against the Head Start proposal and stated her views on why she opposed the legislation.

Second Chief Crow reports from national governors' conference

by Shelly Crow, second chief

TULSA — Colorado Gov. Roy Romer, chairman of the National Governor's Association, made it very clear that renewing citizen confidence in government is the only way to solve all of our problems, in his remarks at the National Governors' Association conference.

Vice President Albert Gore has been assigned by President Bill Clinton to the task of promoting the "reinventing of government" throughout the United States. In his address to the conference he discussed the need to decentralize federal government to the lowest common denominator.

He said the federal government employees are being asked how to change government so that it works for the people that it governs. It has been brought to the attention of the President that promotions in the federal government is by longevity, not by the quality of one's work. As a result, we have federal employees who survive in the system while basically providing no useful service or product.

Another problem is that those in government who are creative and strive for excellence are not adequately rewarded for their efforts. A system must be put in place that recognizes and rewards hard work for the betterment of our government.

As the vice president spoke to the governors, he pointed out their states had too long practiced the same concepts found in federal government. The governors pointed out a workshop is needed for mayors, city commissions, and county commissioners to share and present ideas to resolve government problems.

This is all well and good, except the need to include tribal governments was never addressed. Most state governors still do not recognize or understand the Indian nations and the need to consider tribal governments in the overall concept of "reinventing government."

John Motley, vice president for Federal Government Relations of the National Federation of Independent Businessmen, made a speech that emphasized the concern of small business owners concerning health care reform.

He said small businesses, numbering three million, represent 60 percent of all employers and on the average have four or fewer employees. Only one in five (20 percent) have or provide health care insurance. The majority of the nation's small businesses will be hardest hit by the health care reform package.

Small businesses are typically located in depressed areas employing 50 percent at the poverty level. Motley said these individuals are the ones that will be affected because they are the ones who will be laid off.

President Clinton followed Motley's speech. He discussed the following points:

- Americans should be allowed to choose our own physicians;

- promote universal health care. Right now the U.S. is spending \$888 billion on health care per year and still approximately 40 million citizens are uninsured and receive health care only on an emergency basis. Health care delivered in this manner (on an emergency basis) is costing the American people a lot more in the long run;

- Managed health care is still necessary and represents the best method of accessing health care if the basic package is well developed and the price is right; and

- less paperwork for everyone in health care.

The President spoke of a single parent woman who had four children — one terminally ill. She had to quit her \$50,000-per-year job in order to receive health benefits from federal and state agencies. A good example of a system that is not working correctly.

A needed reform that was discussed was people with pre-existing medical conditions that are afraid to quit their current job for a better one due to loss of insurance coverage. This practice will stop under the President's health care reform package.

After the President spoke, the governors met and discussed the direction their states must take on health care.

Michigan Gov. John Engler said his state had asked the federal government for a waiver for all their health monies from the federal level. They want to control all Aid to Families with Dependent Children and Medicaid and be free to move monies into programs that will best serve their citizens' needs.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and all federally recognized tribes must realize that if the states are allowed to receive waivers for their programs, Indian citizens will be impacted. The population of Native Americans is included in the funding formula. These waivers remind me of self-governance in that we are all fighting with the Indian Health Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The only governors that brought out minority issues were Joan Finney from Kansas and Ann Richards of Texas. Both are women.

Gov. Finney defended the tribes' right to have economic development in her state — whether it be gaming or any other industry. She stated that allowing economic development in her state by the Indian tribes was a win-win situation.

When Indian tribes are allowed to develop their own economic resources they become self-sufficient and can stay off of AFDC and other welfare programs.

Govs. Finney and Richards defended the superconducting supercollider project in Texas. Many minorities have received contracts on this project, including Indian tribes such as the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Mississippi Choctaws, and Black universities such as Langston.

That kind of cooperation among governmental entities will take mankind into the 21st century. A cooperative advancement in technology that no other country in the world can brag about.

I am very glad I attended this conference. I would like to have seen the governors of the various states represented at the conference sitting beside the chief of every tribe that has reservation status within their state boundaries all working together to serve all interests.

Issues such as reinventing government,

health, education, and economic development could be a cooperative effort involving everyone, even the Native Americans who entertained the governors while they were in Oklahoma.

Minority owners for franchises sought

WASHINGTON — The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce awarded \$149,000 to Lisboa Associates, Inc. to perform promotion and outreach activities relating to the agency's national franchise initiative.

Lisboa is a minority-owned communications, management, and consulting firm in Washington, D.C.

The company will promote MBDA's initiative by developing and implementing outreach strategies, including promotional articles for publication in national newspapers and magazines and media manuals for use by MBDA's network of funded business assistance centers.

"The initiative is designed to promote, increase, and maximize minority ownership of franchises," said secretary Ronald H. Brown. "Through our outreach efforts, we are committed to informing the minority business community of all opportunities and options available for franchise ownership."

The minority community composes more than one-fifth of the American population, but owns only six percent of total businesses and an estimated three percent of franchised businesses. The MBDA conducts introductory franchise seminars nationwide to increase minority participation.

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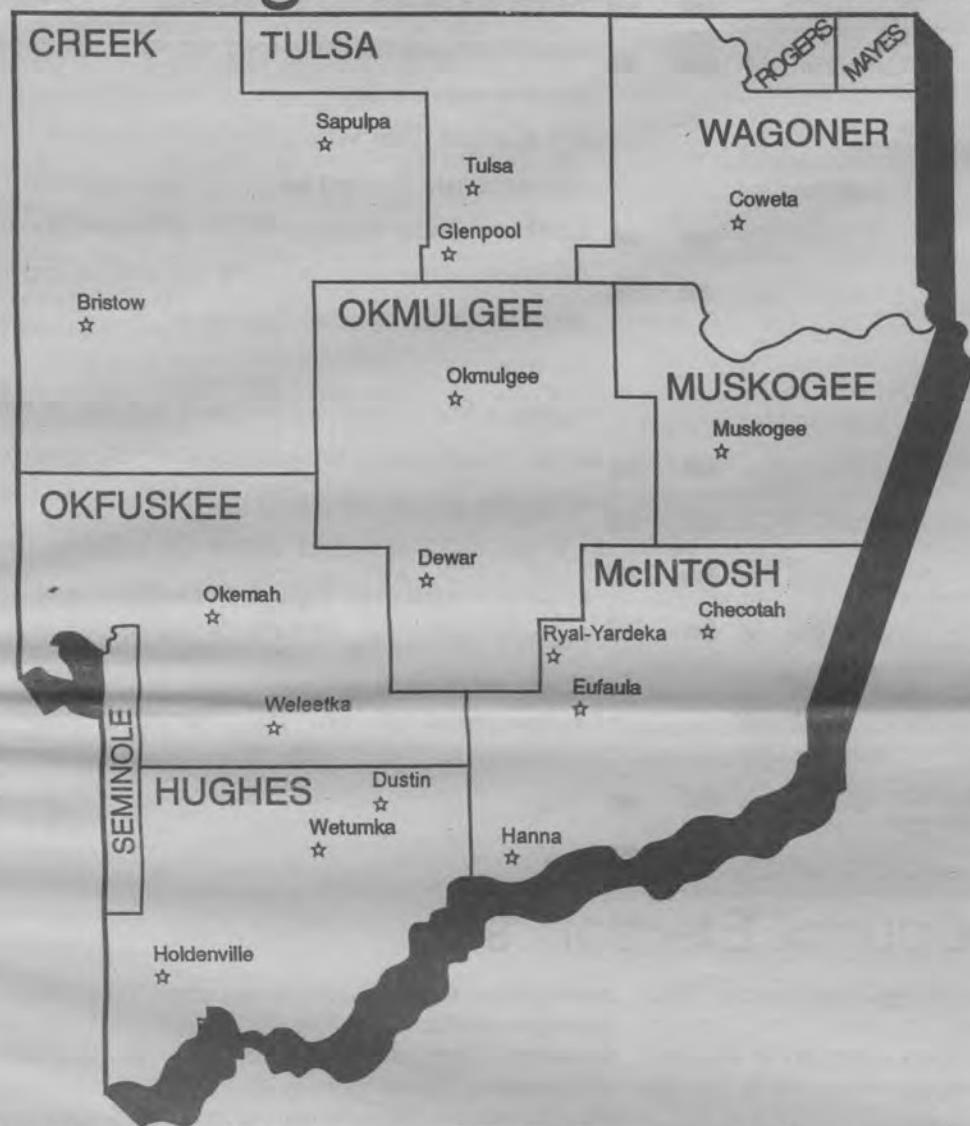
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October 1993, 20 Pages

Muscogee Council Election '93



National Council election attracts 96 candidates for tribal primary

by Jim Wolfe

OKMULGEE — The 1993 tribal election season opened officially Sept. 20, with the filing of the first tribal Council candidates.

At the close of the filing period, Sept. 22, 95 tribal citizens had filed for the 36 seats on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, the tribe's legislative body.

The 1994-95 National Council should be significantly different from earlier models. Nearly one-fourth of the seats (eight) will be filled with new representatives.

Five new seats — one each for the Hughes-Seminole, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okmulgee, and Tulsa Districts — have been added to reflect increasing tribal enrollment. The 36 total seats are up from the present 31 seats.

Three representatives, including the venerable speaker Clarence Cloud, did not seek re-election. Abdicating seats with Cloud, are Don Cahwee, Tulsa

District, and Alexander Thomas, Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District.

Cloud, however, could leave a legacy with the Council: his son, David, is a candidate for his seat.

Cahwee and Thomas leave with medical-related problems.

Four representatives are unopposed: Second Speaker Larry Bible, Tulsa District; Darrell Coachman, Hughes District; Tommy Newton, McIntosh District; and Birn Bruner, Tulsa District.

Bible himself is a legacy. His late father, Andy, served on the Council. Newton did not draw an opponent in the '91 election either. Bruner was elected this spring to replace the seat vacated by Jerry Wilson, now the tribe's executive director.

Coachman's case is ironic. He did have a strong showing in his initial bid for Council two years ago, defeating an incumbent. The race for that district's seat (B) drew five opponents.

One reason given for the number of candidates is the compensation. Though please see COUNCIL..., page 2

Tribe health care officials say reform nothing new; uncertain about Clinton plan

Creek Nation Health Care System

OKMULGEE — President Bill Clinton fired the starting gun for health care reform with the presentation of his health security plan, Sept. 21. In its wake, health care professionals are scrambling to assess what it will mean to the health care industry.

"At this point, we don't know for sure what reform will bring, other than it will surely bring change," said Principal Chief Bill Fife.

"All government programs, including Indian Health Service, will be effected, he said. "We will scrutinize the president's plan to make sure that health benefits now designated to Indians because of our unique status are preserved."

"Our health administrators are already working to meet health care reform head on. Our challenge is to be initiators of change, not casualties of change. Creeks have administered our own health program for 17 years. We're well positioned to move into the future with health care reform," Fife said.

Fife said Second Chief Shelly Crow, Creek Nation

Community Hospital administrator Florence July, and Creek Nation Health director Ed Mouss met with Hillary Rodham Clinton's special health care task force earlier this year, and will continue to be involved in the process.

"The Creek Nation has been active in the reform process since the beginning, and we will be active in the debate to come," Crow said. "After the president's speech, we immediately began to analyze our position."

Crow said Mouss briefed health administrators from the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Seminole nations at a meeting hosted by the Creek Nation in September.

"We believe the Five Tribes need to present a united front to deal with reform," she said.

"We are also taking a look at some of the model health care systems which influenced the president's plan, such as those now being tried in Hawaii, Vermont, and Rochester, New York," Mouss said.

Mouss said reform will impact the Creek Nation in three ways: as health care providers, as employers, and as consumers.

"The president introduced a guaranteed national benefit package and an outline for administering a national health care plan. Our first step in dealing with reform is to assess what services we now provide, and compare them to what the president proposes."

"Our Indian patients who use IHS as their sole or primary health care provider will find that they already have access to most of the basic services outlined by the plan through Creek Nation health care facilities."

"In some areas, vision and dental care for instance, we already provide more than the [proposed] plan dictates. We want to be able to continue to provide these benefits."

"What we don't know yet is how we will pick up the slack on the services we do not offer now, such as hospice, prosthetics, expanded emergency ambulance services, and extended home health care. That will come to light as the debate continues."

"In addition, people using our system will undoubtedly increase. As providers we will have to meet the demand for

please see REFORM..., page 20

Council primary draws large field of candidates

continued from page 1

not enough to be the sole source of income to feed a family, it's some nice change for something that's considered a part-time job, albeit with full-time demands.

In December 1992, the Council changed the way representatives are paid. Before that, representatives were paid for their attendance at meetings, reimbursed for mileage and phone expenses. After the passage of NCA 92-193, the Council went to monthly payments.

Council members now receive \$800 a month — \$9,600 yearly. They are reimbursed expenses for travel while conducting Council business at the federal and tribal rate of 25 cents a mile.

With minimum reimbursements for mileage and the monthly salary, a representative could easily receive more than \$10,000 per year.

Interestingly enough, the salary increase was intended to attract more candidates.

Section 101.F of the bill reads:

"An increase in the compensation for members of the National Council would encourage an increase in participation by tribal citizen(s) on serving in tribal leadership roles [sic]."

Of course, the mid-term Council election has attracted candidates with specific agendas. Since representatives are elected every two years to the Principal Chief's four years, election results can be a portend of conflict between the legislative and executive branches as former Chief Claude Cox learned in the two years following the 1989 elections.

Need proof? Compare the number of vetos between the 1989-91 Council with the number of vetos during the 1992-93 session.

For whatever reason, the sheer number of candidates and the tribe's present political climate make this an election well worth the participation of both the politician and the politicked.

Editor's note

The 1993 Muscogee (Creek) National Council Primary Election has already had an affect on some of us, though not a single vote has been cast.

For certain, the lives of the 96 candidates friends, relatives, and opponents will be anything but routine over the course of the election season.

Eventually, all of us will be affected by the 1993 elections.

A more immediate example however, is the October edition of *The Muscogee Nation News*. The sheer number of candidates — the most since the 19th century when there were two legislative houses — has limited the space of the publication severely.

To be certain, there are other restraints. Mailing of this special election issue was moved up to coincide with the mailing of the absentee ballots. Ninety-five questionnaires accompanied by 95 photos left precious little room for many of the regular features. Several pages are missing this month, including: letters to the editor; society; education; religion; and obituaries.

Appearing in this edition however, are stories regarding President Clinton's proposed health care reform plan (from the tribal health systems perspective) and the fiscal year 1994 comprehensive budget. Notices are listed in very brief form.

The MNN will return to its regular format next month. We regret the inconvenience.

PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREEK DISTRICT OCTOBER 23, 1993	
NATIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE	
SEAT A	Vote For One
Earl W. Wheeler	←
Patricia L. Greenwood Curry	←
Delbert V. Dunn	←
Curtis Simmers	←
SEAT B	Vote For One
Leah A. Jack	←
Roy G. Bear	←
SEAT C	Vote For One
Phyllis Warrington	←
David Rodney Cloud	←
Solomon Hill	←
Terry Lunsford	←
SEAT D	Vote For One
Duke Harjo	←
Mose Cahwee	←

Muscogee Council Election '93 Ballot instructions

As reported in the August edition of *The Muscogee Nation News*, this election marks the first time the tribe will use automated voting machines. This should speed up the voting tabulations and reduce greatly the opportunity for fraud.

At left, is a sample ballot. The candidates for each district seat will not have their names in the same place on every ballot.

For example, Earl Wheeler's name appears at the top of the list. The next ballot will have his name in another position. Each candidate will have his or her name rotated at both the top and bottom and in between the list of other candidates.

To vote:

- draw a line connecting the head and tail of the arrow that points to the candidate of your choice;
- use only the special pen or pencil provided;
- if you make an error, return the ballot to the precinct officials and request a new ballot; and
- do not fold ballots.

These instructions will also appear in Mvskoke.

Muscogee Council Election '93

Precinct locations by district. Polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Creek District

Bristow precinct: Indian community center, 121 W. Lincoln
Sapulpa precinct: Indian community office, 1030 E. Taft St.
110 (Creek Hills Mall)

Hughes-Seminole District

Dustin precinct: senior citizens center, main street
Holdenville precinct: Indian community center, 416 E. Poplar
Wetumka precinct: Indian community center, 608 N. Creek
McIntosh District

Checotah precinct: Indian community center, 998 Maple
Eufaula precinct: Indian community center, 806 W. Forest Ave.

Hanna precinct: Indian community center, two and three-fourths miles east of Hanna's main street

Ryal-Yardka precinct: Yardka Indian Community Center,
eight miles south of Henryetta on Lake Road
Muskogee District

Muskogee precinct: Indian community center, 111 S. Virginia
Okluskee District

Okemah precinct: Indian community center, two blocks south of Interstate 40 on state highway 27

Weleetka precinct: Indian community center, 609 S. Chickasaw
Okmulgee District

Dewar precinct: Indian community center, 402 Luella St.
Oklmulgee precinct: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Capitol Complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56

Tulsa District

Glenpool precinct: Indian community center, 13839 S. Casper (north of U.S. Highway 75 and S. 141st St.)

Tulsa precinct: Indian community office, 6363 E. 31st St.

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

Koweta precinct: Indian community center, 30901 E. 141st St. (one-fourth mile east of Ben Lumpkin Road on 141st Street north)

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Managing editor: Jim Wolfe

Senior staff writer: Stephanie Berryhill

Staff writer: Noah Long

Audio-visual specialist: Gerald Wofford

Muscogee Council Election '93

Muscogee Council Election '93 special section

The following 16-page section identifies every candidate seeking a seat on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. It is designed to introduce the candidates to our readers and not as any political analysis.

All candidates were asked to have their picture taken by *The Muscogee Nation News* or submit a photograph for publication.

The MNN also asked candidates to list biographical information, professional experiences, and a give a brief reason for wanting to be a Council representative.

Each candidate was asked to limit his or her reasons to 100 words. A limit was necessary to ensure fairness. The number 100 was necessary because of The MNN's space limitations.

Each candidate was given the same opportunity to respond. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order by districts. Submissions were edited for clarity, consistency, and style.

The Muscogee Nation News endorses no one candidate for any office.

The primary election is Oct. 23.

Creek District Seat A

Name: Patricia Greenwood Curry
Age: 32
Residence: Bristow
Family: husband, Vernon; daughter Courtney
Parents: Jake and Carol Greenwood
Clan: Beaver
Church: First Christian
Ground and-or tribal town: Koweta
Political, professional experience:

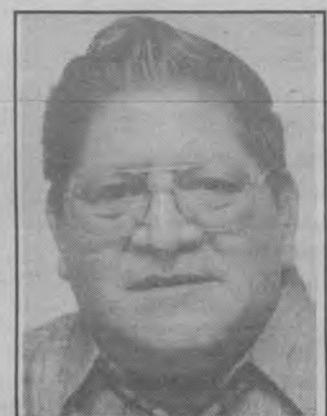
coordinator, Johnson O'Malley, Bristow Public Schools; secretary, Bristow Indian Community; summer youth director, BIC

Reason for seeking office: During my involvement with the Creek people it has become apparent the people have a great need to be represented. I have the desire to be the voice who will bring back the information to our communities. I feel with the size of the tribal budget, the legislative branch must be involved as the overseer of this budget. We must ensure the Creek citizens our tribal money is accounted. We cannot afford to neglect the funding for our services that benefit the people. I will work directly for the people and provide the leadership and direction necessary to accomplish many of the objectives required for a responsible tribal government.



Creek District Seat A

Name: Delbert Dunn
Age: 56
Residence: Kellyville
Family: wife, Wilma; children, Nikki Brown, Victor Anderson, Debra Lappah, Delbert T. Dunn, Vanis E. Dunn, Gary L. Dunn, and Aaron V. Dunn.
Parents: Ralph and Martha Dunn
Clan: Bear
Ground and-or tribal town: Kellyville-Polecat



Political, professional experience: Creek District representative, 1979-87

Reason for seeking office: Having once served as a Creek District representative, I believe I am qualified to serve as your representative again. It will be a privilege to serve as one of your representatives if elected. Your vote for me will be greatly appreciated.

Creek District Seat A

Name: Curtis Simmers
Age: 61
Residence: Bristow
Family: wife, Mary Louise
Clan: Wind
Church: United Methodist
Ground and-or tribal town: Arbeka, Concharity
Political, professional experience:



advisory council (pre-1979 Constitution), Concharity representative; helped bring improved Creek housing through the Newtown United Methodist Church sponsorship of low rent housing units at Creek Village — one of the first housing programs for Creeks under Housing and Urban Development; retired member, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Reason for seeking office: I will be more responsive to the tribal members of Creek District. I will work with our Creek County representatives for better communications with all three of our communities: Sapulpa; Kellyville; and Bristow. I will work with the Council to solve problems that affect our tribal members, especially elders — our top priority recipients for all services. I believe this is in our Indian tradition to respect and help our elders.

Creek District Seat A

Name: Earl Wheeler, incumbent
Residence: Bristow
Family: children, Kim Stewart, Kevin, Jeremiah, and Madison
Parents: grandfather, Wysena Madison Bucktrot; grandmother, Da Ke Sah Co Conthaney Annie Brown
Church: Mutteloke

Ground and-or tribal town: Sand Creek



Political, professional experience: JOM, 6 yrs; Title IV, 6 yrs.; chair, Bristow Indian Community, 4 yrs.; social services-cultural preservation committee, 4 yrs.; U.S. Air Force, 4 yrs.; Vietnam veteran

Reason for seeking office: The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is at a critical stage in government. As an experienced Council member, I can and do play a vital role in utilizing tribal funds to improve tribal programs and services. As a representative I've sponsored bills for: health and emergency medical care; dental care; air conditioners for elderly shut-ins; education; home repair; elderly nutrition; and cultural preservation. We are at a turning with this administration as the tribe begins self-governance. The need for a trained and qualified Indian work force will be great. It is of the utmost importance to maintain experienced leadership for the growth of our great nation and for the people.

Creek District Seat B

Name: Roy Bear, incumbent

No other information submitted.



Muscogee Council Election '93

Creek District Seat B

Name: Leah Jack
Residence: Sapulpa
Family: children, Juanita, Anita, Noel, and Pete; daughter-in-law, Vickie Jack; grandchildren, Christina McDaniel and Nathan Jack
Parents: Helen Harjo Jimboy
Clan: Wind
Church: Creek Chapel
Groundand-or tribal town: Tal-muchasi



Reason for seeking office: We have all heard, 'I want to be the voice and the vote of the people.' I would like to carry that promise out on the National Council. With the growth of the Creek Nation, the voice of the people should be relayed by your representative. I have been chair of the Sapulpa Indian Community for six years. The biggest gripe is that the representatives do not attend community meetings. How can the constituents voice their vote if there is not a representative present to hear the voices of the people? Community meetings are as important as the National Council meetings. The representative needs to work to retrieve the powers that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitution vested in them — 'all legislative powers.'

Creek District Seat C

Name: David Cloud
Age: 48
Residence: Bristow
Family: wife, Patricia; sons, Rodney and Clinton
Parents: Clarence and Louella Cloud
Church: Assembly of God
Reason for seeking office: To carry on the work that my father has started on the National Council. With his guidance, I believe I could serve the people of the Creek District in the same manner.



Creek District Seat C

Name: Solomon Hill
Age: 33
Residence: Bristow
Family: wife, Kimberly; five children
Parents: Jo Ann and the late George Hill
Clan: Beaver
Church: Buckeye
Ground and-or tribal town: New Tulsa
Political, professional experience: graduate, Depew High School; chair, Title IV and JOM, Depew Public Schools



Reason for seeking office: I am seeking the office to provide the Creeks and Yuchis in the Creek District with better representation on the National Council. I believe the present representatives do not inform the people of their monthly meetings. If elected I will support education, health, and cultural programs and work for the best interests of the Creek Nation.

Creek District Seat C

Name: Terry Lunsford
Age: 36
Residence: Bristow
Parents: Bernice Watson, Curtis Lunsford
Political, professional experience: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Administration, 6 yrs.; community health representative, 2 yrs.



Reason for seeking office: As a National Council representative I feel we should listen and speak for our people and I intend to do just that. As an eight-year employee for the Muscogee Nation I have represented the Creek Nation, in a sense, and I've heard the people voice their opinions, both positive and negative. If elected, I will go back to the communities, and allow the constituents a chance to become aware of the Council's plan of action. Many people feel they have little or no representation. I have approached several Council representatives with different requests from the people. However, these requests seem to have fallen on deaf ears. If I am elected the people will be heard.

Creek District Seat C

Name: Phyllis Bruner Warrington
Age: 44
Residence: Sapulpa
Family: daughter, Dode Barnett; son, Bruce; grandson, Japeth Tim Barnett
Parents: the late George and Lizzie Harjo Bruner
Clan: Bird
Church: Salt Creek United Methodist
Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee



Political, professional experience: past member, officer, Title IV - now Title V - parent committee Indian education and JOM, late 1970s to 1991; past member, Sapulpa United Head Start Parent Policy Board; past member, Title VII school desegregation, Sapulpa Public Schools; past member, chair, tribal election board; member, secretary-treasurer, Sapulpa Indian Community
Reason for seeking office: I will listen and take seriously the needs or problems of the Creek District citizens. I will attempt to take immediate action to help solve their needs to problems. I will support legislation for economic development, education, health care, preventive health care, sovereignty through legal action, and preserving our Mvskoke culture. Most importantly, I will make every effort to represent all Creek District citizens in their best interests.

Creek District Seat D

Name: Mose Cahwee, incumbent
Age: 75
Residence: Sapulpa
Family: wife, Thelma
Clan: Deer
Church: Pickett Chapel
Ground and-or tribal town: Kellyville
Political, professional experience: member, education and community services committees



Reason for seeking office: I see great needs in education, community services, senior citizens, Head Start, and JOM programs, as well as cultural preservation and promotion. There is also a need for working class, middle-aged people. There are no benefits, provisions, or retraining programs for them if they are laid off from their jobs. I also want to see a food distribution program for Creeks and Yuchis living in a city with 10,000 or more population. I see a need to increase the school clothing allowance. What can you buy for \$50? We need to emphasize health care and more benefits for Creek and Yuchi people. I also urge more citizen participation at community and Council meetings.

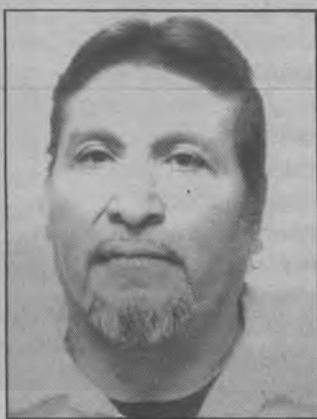
Muscogee Council Election '93

Creek District Seat D

Name: Duke Harjo
Residence: Sapulpa
Family: wife, Ellen Moore Harjo; two children
Parents: The late Jim Busey Harjo Jr. and Lena Wind Harjo
Clan: Bear
Church: High Spring
Ground and-or tribal town: Alabama-Quassarte
Political, professional experience:

manager, Lighthorse administration, 6 yrs.; governing committee, Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town, 5 yrs.; present chief, Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town

Reason for seeking office: As your representative I will commit myself to your services. Your priorities are my priorities. I will be a strong and informed voice for the people I serve. Your wants and needs will be taken to the National Council and they will be addressed. All information gained through Council meetings or with the various program directors and managers will be given to the people. More importantly, all information will be current, complete, and accurate. I will make you proud you elected me.



Hughes-Seminole District Seat A

Name: Cora Ann Beaver
Age: 59
Residence: Holdenville
Family: daughter, Vicki Zack
Parents: Nancy Harjo and the late John Beaver Sr.
Church: Salt Creek United Methodist
Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee
Political, professional experience:

executive board secretary, Holdenville Indian Community; board member, Denver Native American Center; board member, Denver Indian Health Clinic; executive secretary, Denver Public Schools; American Indian Advisory Council; medical secretary, Colorado University, 17 yrs.; currently, secretary, Camp Oil Co.

Reason for seeking office: With my experience working with Indians — seeing the many problems of our Creek world — I feel I can work toward fulfilling some of the goals set by Creek government. We must be a progressive government to meet the demands of the obstacles hindering economic growth, health care for children and elderly and now for an increasing number of single people. As times change we need to look to our youth, education, and the experience of our elders for better tomorrows. The sacrifices of today will be worth the efforts in a fruit that produces.



Hughes-Seminole District Seat A

Name: Johnson Buck
Age: 52
Address: Holdenville
Family: Connie Sewell Buck; five children
Parents: Nathan and Alice McCosar Buck
Clan: Bird
Church: First Indian Baptist
Political, professional experience: Muscogee National Council 3 yrs.; contractor, commercial refrigeration

Reason for seeking office: I will work toward the improvement of health, education and the general welfare of all Creek citizens. I will pursue alternatives to the closure of the Dustin dairy farm and the Holdenville bingo, both of which occurred during the past 24 months. I will work hard to implement programs through the Council and the current administration for the tribe. I will work to unite the Holdenville Indian Community, to set goals for everyone to work in a direction beneficial to all.

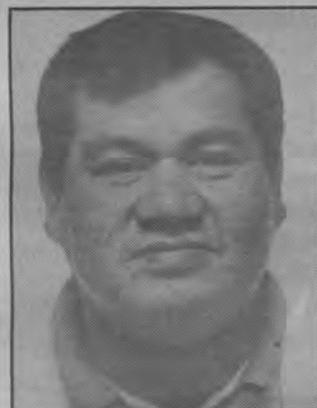


Hughes-Seminole District Seat A

Name: Dwayne Lowe, incumbent
Age: 40
Residence: Wetumka
Family: wife, Janice; children, Dawn, Leslie, Angela, Stephanie, and Pacer
Parents: George and Ester Cain Lowe
Clan: Sweet Potato
Church: Yeager Mission
Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee

Political, professional experience: National Council representative, 2 yrs.; social worker, Department of Human Services; and vice-chair, Wetumka Indian Community

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking another term to improve the tribal government, open the lines of communication, improve tribal services and housing, develop communities, educate our people, provide the best health care available, develop economic enterprises to provide quality employment for our people and preserve our sovereignty and culture.



Hughes-Seminole District Seat B

Name: Robert Buck
Age: 54
Residence: Holdenville
Family: wife, Judy; children, Alice, Otis, Greta, Georgia, and Bob
Parents: Nathan and Alice Buck
Clan: Bird
Church: Nazarene
Political, professional experience:

school board member, Holdenville Public Schools; committee member, Indian child welfare; National Council representative, 6 yrs.; barber, hairstylist, 32 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: I have concerns for the Muscogee (Creek) citizens in education, health, and welfare areas. I support all programs vital to the Creek citizens, such as the energy, education, medical, and economic assistance programs. I will be a full-time representative and available at all times to the Creek citizens in the Hughes-Seminole District.



Hughes-Seminole District Seat B

Name: Timmie Fife
Age: 41
Address: Dustin
Family: wife, Sheila; daughter, Tracy
Parents: James and the late Carmen Fife.
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Thewarle
Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee
Political, professional experience: Dustin High School; attended Northeastern

State Univ. and Seminole Jr. College; 1974 graduate, auto mechanics, Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee; currently, master mechanic, Voigt Motors, Eufaula; charter member, Dustin Indian Community, 1992; community chair, 1992-93

Reason for seeking office: I strongly believe that representation should be from the community — all Hughes-Seminole District. I have the following objectives. Economic development: create business or industry within the district and activity at the agribusiness involving Indian students in FFA and 4-H; Community, family: assess needs to address problems; encourage participation in community and tribal affairs; enroll children; register voters; and create local Indian fire departments. Education and health: counsel Indian students for college or vo-tech education working with other education programs; work for a Hughes District clinic; start elderly transportation program to meet their needs.



Muscogee Council Election '93

Hughes-Seminole District Seat B

Name: L.C. Franks,

incumbent

Age: 51

Residence:

Holdenville

Family: wife, Susan

Lowe Franks; chil-

dren, Christopher,

Ronald, Norman, and

Danielle

Parents: Emma Att

Franks

Clan: Bird

Church: High Spring

Political, profes-

sional experience:

National Council representative, 2 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: These past two years as your National Council representative has enabled me to enhance my knowledge and skills needed to further the progress of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I want to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for this experience. It has been an honor for me to serve as your Council representative. Your confidence and vote is truly appreciated. The needs of the Creek citizens will be my number one priority, whether large or small, it still needs to be addressed. I ask for your continued support and vote to reinforce progress and dedication to service.



Hughes-Seminole District Seat B

Name: Hattie Harjo

Age: 55

Residence: Wewoka

Family: husband,

Legus; children,

Anita, Legus Jr. Rita

Maple, Janis

Dawson, Sheila

Johnson, and the late

Darrell Harjo

Parents: The late

Rev. Eddie and

Lucinda Noon

Lindsey

Clan: Katcvilke

(Tiger)

Church: Little Quarsarte

Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee

Political, professional experience: church treasurer, Sunday school teacher, 15 yrs; missions work representative, Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association; working mother, home manager, parent; homeroom mother, Future Homemakers of America

Reason for seeking office: I want to help the elderly in my district enjoy life by providing a safer, healthier, more comfortable environment. I intend to keep Indian people living within the district informed about activities and developments of the Muscogee Nation. I will work for the voters by voting on issues as directed by the people. I want to be a representative always available to the people of my district. I want to be a representative that is always available to the people and to learn of the issues and concerns that are important to all of us. Mvto.



Hughes-Seminole District Seat B

Name: Martha A. Long

Age: 42

Residence:

Holdenville

Parents: Nathan and

Cindy McGeeley Long

Clan: Deer

Church: Salt Creek

United Methodist

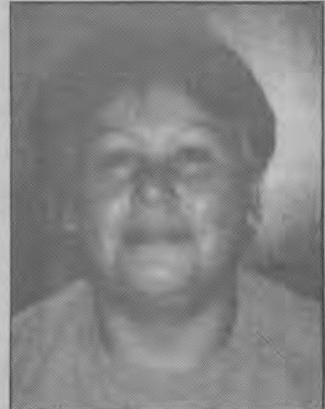
Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee

Political, profes-

sional experience: nutrition and social committees,

Holdenville Indian

Community



Reason for seeking office: Because of my active participation in my community, I have been approached by many people seeking information about the community and about the services and benefits available from the Creek Nation. I feel our community is not receiving the information from our present representatives or we have received the information too late. I believe being a single person without children affords me the opportunity and time to better serve my people.

Hughes-Seminole District Seat C

Name: Darrell

Coachman, incum-

bent

Age: 44

Residence:

Wetumka

Family: wife, Sherry

LaDean; children,

Amy; and grandchild,

Spencer.

Parents: the late

Albert and Abbie

Coachman

Clan: Sweet Potato

Church: Wetumka

Indian Baptist

Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee

Political, professional experience: Muscogee (Creek) National Council representative; charter member, Wetumka Indian Community

Reason for seeking office: As I complete my first term as your Council representative, I am sincere in my gratitude of your support, encouragement, and advice. I will continue to be your voice in our tribal government, and I will continue to answer to the needs of the Creek people in the Hughes-Seminole District as well as all of the Creek Nation. Mvto.



Hughes-Seminole District Seat D

Name: Norean Tiger

Age: 56

Residence:

Holdenville

Family: husband,

Kelly Tiger; children,

Kelly Jr.; Julia,

Kimberly Cozad, and

Belinda Allison

Buzzard

Parents: Nancy Harjo

and the late John

Beaver Sr.

Church: Salt Creek

United Methodist

Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee

Political, professional experience: member, Holdenville Indian Community; management relations, Sears Roebuck Co., 12 yrs.; paraprofessional, Tulsa Public Schools Title IV Program, 8 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: I resided in Tulsa for 35 years where I worked and made a home for my husband and four children. Upon my return to Hughes County I became involved with Holdenville Indian Community. My husband and I live on a farm and raise cattle. I have the time necessary to devote to the Hughes District people. I seek this candidacy with a positive attitude of fulfilling goals set by the Creek government. We must try to work with the Creek people in solving problems that beset us in these times. I am impressed with the government of our tribe and I want to be a part of it. My thanks to everyone for their encouragement to me in seeking this office.



Hughes-Seminole District Seat D

Name: Thomas Yahola

Age: 54

Residence: Wetumka

Parents: Lyman and

Bertha Yahola

Clan: Deer

Church: Montesuma

Ground and-or tribal town: Tallahassee,

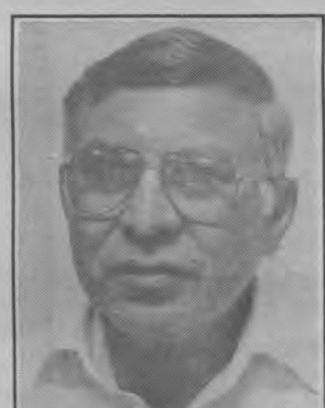
Thlophlocco

Political, profes-

sional experience:

National Council, 1 term; present member, tribal citizenship board; employed with the Army Corps of Engineers

Reason for seeking office: I seek election with your vote to provide you with continued representation. During my previous term, I attended all monthly meetings and immediately following, I presented the Council proceedings to the citizens and communities. Today we have some excellent programs, but those can be improved and new programs must be initiated for additional needs and I want to be a part of that process. My priorities will be the youth and their self-esteem, and care for the elderly. The budget expenditures also concern me. The promotion and exercise of tribal sovereignty are high priority. I will exercise all of my efforts, which I gained through my Council and citizenship board experiences, with hard work for the betterment of the tribe. Your support and vote is sincerely appreciated.



Muscogee Council Election '93

McIntosh District Seat A

Name: Tommy Newton, incumbent
Age: 26

Residence: Checotah
Parents: Charlene Fox and the late Leo Newton
Clan: Tiger
Church: Deep Fork Hillabee
Ground and-or tribal town: Quassarte

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking

the office to continue the promotion of the well-being of our tribal citizens and to help create employment for our Creek people and enhance the tribal health care program.



McIntosh District Seat B

Name: Wilson Bear, incumbent
Age: 50

Residence: Checotah
Family: daughter, Kim; and step-daughter, Tamara Frazier
Parents: The late Turner and Emily Bear
Clan: Bear
Church: Protestant
Ground and-or tribal Town: Eufaula-Canadian (Eufaulagee)

Political, professional experience: National Council representative, 1 term; past chair, Checotah Indian Community; committee assignments include internal affairs, tribal affairs, ad hoc, and fact finding

Reason for seeking office: I seek the office to promote the welfare, health, education, and safety of our Muscogee (Creek) citizens with increased funding to finance tribal programs already in existence.



McIntosh District Seat B

Name: Wilbur Chebon Gouge
Age: 42

Residence: Eufaula
Family: wife, Cheryl Whitebuffalo; son, Rayburn; daughter, Tashina
Parents: the late Albert and Sallie Spaniard Gouge
Clan: Deer
Ground and-or tribal town: Weogufkee, Wakokai

Political, profes-

sional experience: manager-mechanic, Westside Service; instructor, Southwest Technical College; board member, JOM, Oklahoma City; chair, Hanna Indian Community, 1 year

Reason for seeking office: The lack of concern and representation from the Council for you was my deciding factor. With proper representation, the many problems facing the district and the Muscogee Nation can be addressed and an effective course of action to find proper and satisfactory solutions can begin.

McIntosh District is a prime location for extensive economic development. As your representative, it will be my duty to make every effort to increase employment of tribal citizens in the district. Attending all Council and community meetings is my intention to keep tribal citizens abreast of all matters of the Council that may concern the citizens.



McIntosh District Seat C

Name: Ace Buckner
Age: 43

Residence: Hanna
Family: wife, Linda; and two children
Parents: father, Sandy Buckner; grandfather, Brutus Washington

Clan: Raccoon

Reason for seeking office: I have lived in Hanna for a number of years and most of my family is also from Hanna. I understand what is expected of me in serving the people. I will represent the people for a common sense approach to our government. I will work hard to keep our people informed of the issues and services available from the Creek Nation.



McIntosh District Seat C

Name: Abelo Fields
Age: 66

Residence: Hitchita
Family: wife, Hazel; children, Aaron and Shoshana

Parents: foster parents the late Sukey, and Rev. Roley Haynes

Clan: Bird

Church: Hickory Ground #1

Ground and-or tribal town: Arbeka

Political, professional experience: graduate, Graham High School; Haskell Indian Junior College; Northrop Institute of Technology, Inglewood, Calif.; A&P license; aircraft technology with a background and knowledge in construction and industry

Reason for seeking office: Because I speak the Creek language fluently, I will be able to communicate with our elderly citizens and properly represent our traditional Indians. At the same time, I will encourage our young people to obtain as much of the modern education as possible to take their place in today's society. I feel I am qualified to represent the people of the McIntosh District. I represented our nation in the U.S. Army as an airborne Ranger in World War II. I will continue to fight for the rights of our citizens of the McIntosh District. Your vote and support will be appreciated. Myto.



McIntosh District Seat B

Name: Sandy McIntosh, incumbent
Age: 77

Residence: Stidham
Family: wife, Louise; children, Abe, Lynda, Sandy Kay, and Tammy

Parents: Tom and Susie McIntosh

Clan: Bear

Church: Big Arbor

Ground and-or tribal town: Koweta

Reason for seeking

office: I seek the office to help my Indian people with improved health, good housing facilities and conditions, better education, and clean living.



Muscogee Council Election '93

McIntosh District Seat D

Name: Tom O. Pickering, incumbent
Age: 37

Residence: Eufaula
Family: wife, Judith Tiger; sons, Sheridan and Judd

Parents: James A. and Edna Burgess Pickering

Church: West Eufaula

Ground and-or tribal town: Hitchiti

Political, professional experience:

National Council representative, 4 yrs.; chair, tribal affairs committee; chair, roads project committee; member, reburial committee; advisor, Eufaula Indian Youth Council; chair, 4 consecutive terms, Eufaula Indian Community, active in the affairs of the church, community, schools, and tribe

Reason for seeking office: I seek my third term to continue to be a servant for the people of McIntosh District in terms of health, economic development and education. In 1992 I wrote or introduced 46 pieces of legislation for the betterment of the Creek tribe. I take this position serious, as I have in the past. I will strive to continue to work hard for and to represent the people in the McIntosh District. I've liyed up to my issues in the past terms of providing employment, bringing in new revenue, health care and education funding to our citizens. I give thanks to our Creator for His help. Mvto.



McIntosh District Seat D

Name: Yahola Townsend

Age: 69

Residence:

Checotah

Family: wife, Betty; children, Vicki McIntosh, Terry Townsend, Becki McCutchen, and Kelly Townsend

Parents: Marshall and Jeanetta McIntosh

Clan: Bear

Church: Baptist

Ground and-or tribal town: Tuskegee

Political, professional experience: Creek Nation and tribal housing authority, 10 yrs.; building contractor and rancher, 35 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: I will use my experience to help my community and all Muscogee (Creek) people.



McIntosh District Seat E

Name: Jimmie Jones

Age: 52

Residence: Eufaula

Family: wife, Janice; children, Justin, Jered, Reggie, and Jojo

Parents: Walter and the late Mary Jones

Clan: Coon

Church: Nuyaka

Ground and-or tribal town: Nuyaka

Political, professional experience: food service supervisor, Creek Nation

Reason for seeking office: The main reason I am seeking this office is to help the Indian people.



McIntosh District Seat E

Name: Frank Kamp

Age: 60

Residence: Eufaula
Family: daughters, Beverly Sturgeon and LaDonna Hayes; son, Robert A.

Parents: Silas and Kittie M. Burgess Kamp

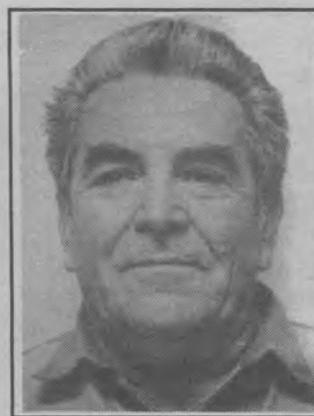
Clan: Beaver

Ground and-or tribal town: Quassarte

Political, professional experience:

National Council representative, 6 yrs.; chair, tribal industrial development committee, 1 yr.

Reason for seeking office: Progress must continue in the McIntosh District and throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I believe my experience as a Council representative will contribute to the progress that is being made today.



McIntosh District Seat E

Name: Thomas McIntosh

Age: 70

Residence: Stidham

Family: wife, Neoma; and five grandchildren

Parents: Thomas and Susan Island McIntosh

Clan: Bear

Church: Big Arbor Baptist

Ground and-or tribal town: Koweta

Reason for seeking office: My only reason to seek the office is to serve the tribal members of the Creek Nation.



McIntosh District Seat E

Name: George Thompson

Age: 50

Residence: Henryetta
Family: wife, Nora; two children

Parents: George and Bessie Thompson

Clan: Bird

Ground and-or tribal town: Hickory Ground

Political, professional experience: member, Yardeka Indian Community;

chair and vice-chair, Yardeka Indian Community; mekko, Hickory Ground Ceremonial ground, 16 yrs.; graduate, Haskell Institute (now Junior college); college credit toward an engineering degree, Tulsa Junior College; additional courses, OSU-Oklmulgee; presently employed, City of Tulsa Engineering Department, 16 yrs.



Reason for seeking office: I seek the office to give representation for the people in my community and others. I am not a single issue candidate and I will cover many areas such as housing for the underprivileged, health care, accessibility, communities and education for our youth. Churches and all the ceremonial grounds will have my support. I have a place in my heart for the elderly. I am proud of the fact I can speak the Creek language fluently and I feel I can be of great assistance to meet our elderly's needs.

Muscogee Council Election '93

Muscogee District Seat A

Name: Helen Chupco, incumbent
Residence: Muskogee
Family: husband, Rev. Lee Chupco; son, James.; daughter, Waukomis Lewis
Parents: the late Rev. Billie and Bessie Palmer, Holdenville
Clan: Sweet Potato
Church: Cover's Chapel Methodist
Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee



Political, professional experience: advisory Council (pre-'79 Constitution), 9 yrs.; election board secy., 2 yrs.; exec. director, Tulsa Urban Indian Center, 13 yrs.; advisory board, Oklahoma Area IHS, 4 yrs.; advisory board, Claremore IHS; current secy., Five Tribes council; Creek constitution committee, 2 yrs.
Reason for seeking office: I am seeking my eighth term as Muskogee District rep. As a member of the community services committee, encompassing programs for burial assistance, clothing, CHS, child welfare, dental, elderly nutrition, health, food distribution, I understand the great needs of Creek people. There is a need for more appropriations in these areas and I will work toward that end. My ability to speak Creek fluently, along with my deep understanding of tribal customs, religion, and traditions are assets I offer Creek people. I support and vote for what I believe is best for Creeks. I will emphasize elderly care. Mvto.

Muscogee District Seat A

Name: Rosalie Tiger
Age: 42
Residence: Muskogee
Family: children, Alicia L., Angela D., Sean, and Jay Stroble
Parents: Johnny M. and Lucinda Lewis Tiger
Clan: Beaver
Church: West Eufaula
Ground and-or tribal town: Little River Tulsa-Quassarte



Political, professional experience: current president, Muskogee Indian Community; was instrumental in starting the community smokeshop; former director, Five Civilized Tribes Foundation
Reason for seeking office: I want to serve my community and tribe in a way that will encourage tribal unity and progress. I would appreciate the opportunity to show our people in the Muskogee District that I will be accountable to them by listening to their needs or concerns and will inform them of tribal matters and services available in a timely manner. I will seek community input as part of the decision-making process. As the Muscogee Nation has many needs, I feel a more progressive economic development plan is vital to ensure the tribe's future and to allow for utilization of tribal resources, which includes employment of tribal members.

Muscogee District Seat B

Name: Charlie Coker, incumbent

No other information submitted.



Muscogee District Seat B

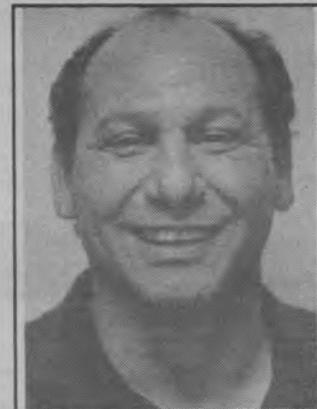
Name: Malissa Napier
Age: 50
Residence: Muskogee
Family: husband, Carl; children, Deborah Seeds, Doreen, Mark, and Melvin Combs.
Parents: Sam W. and Ethel A. Perryman
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Mountain View Baptist



Political, professional experience: treasurer, Muskogee Indian Community, two terms; board of managers; office manager, Napco 6 yrs.; assistant manager, Napco, 6 yrs. Napco manufactures aerospace parts and is owned by my husband and myself
Reason for seeking office: I am interested in the welfare of our people. I also have a strong desire to help preserve our traditions. We must have representatives who will listen their people's needs. The representative must then work with, and support both the Council and the Fife administration. We must learn to overcome past personal conflicts and work toward the advancement in all fields. Our nation is emerging as a major force with the business sector, therefore we must work diligently toward updating and developing business, social and health programs for all Creeks. Mvto.

Muscogee District Seat C

Name: Jerry Downum
Age: 41
Address: Muskogee
Parents: the late Henry and Nancy Gray Downum
Clan: Tiger
Church: New Arbor Baptist



Reason for seeking office: I am determined to work with the Creek Nation to bring more employment and better housing to the Creek people. I will work with the other council members to promote the continuance of health and welfare programs. I have given much thought about the responsibilities as a council member and I believe I can represent the best interests of the people in the Muskogee District. Mvto.

Muscogee District Seat C

Name: Ruth King
Age: 45
Residence: Haskell
Family: husband, James; children, Cynthia, Christi, David, and Daniel.
Parents: John and Lula Neal
Church: Concharty
Ground and-or tribal town: Twin Hills Indian Community



Reason for seeking office: I seek the office because I am concerned about health care for the Creek people. I believe there is too much talk and too little action concerning health care. I cannot see all of the improvements that have been talked about in recent years. We definitely need more money funded for health care. The needs of many Creek people are not being met by the tribal government. Many citizens are being ignored. The administrators should put a high priority on helping each and every member of the Creek Nation in need. Among those needs are health care, adequate housing, and financial assistance when needed.

Muscogee Council Election '93

Muscogee District Seat C

Name: Frances Pease

Age: 64

Residence:

Muskogee

Family: husband, Jody; son, Ronald

Parents: the late

Turner and Mary

Lashley

Clan: Raccoon

Church: formerly Greenleaf Indian;

First Baptist

Muskogee

Ground and-or tribal

town: Eufaulahee, Thlophlocco

Political, professional experience: Oklahoma Education Association delegate, Muskogee Association; education lobbyist; Muskogee precinct Democrat delegate; graduate, Chilocco and Bacone Jr. College; bachelor's and master's degrees, Northeastern State University; educator, 31 yrs., retired

Reason for seeking office: I seek to recognize and identify the basic needs of Indians. I would also work to meet the needs of our elderly citizens, whom are not aware of resources that are available through the Indian services. I would also work toward educational opportunities for young adults to continue their education, but may not be aware of available resources. It is only through education that young people will become independent, have a feeling of security, a positive outlook on life, and have pride. I would also advocate employment for all Creek people.



Oklfuskee District Seat A

Name: Toney Hill

Age: 79

Residence: Okemah

Parents: Dave Hill Harjo

Clan: Alligator

Church: Baptist

Ground and-or tribal town: Fish

Pond, Greenleaf

Reason for seeking office: I seek the

office because I

believe the elders in the Okfuskee District have been over-

looked. I will not make any promises at this time, but if I am elected I will make visits to my voters and I will arrange for called meetings.



Muscogee District Seat A

Name: Hepsie Mae Jackson, incumbent

Age: 57

Residence: Okemah

Family: husband, Bob; one son

Parents: Phillip Tiger and Annie Monday

Clan: Bear

Church: Springfield

Ground and-or tribal town: Fishpond

Political, professional experience:

Indian social-

economic advocate, 20 yrs.; tribal sovereignty lobbyist; Congressional witness, Indian health, employment, child welfare issues; Okfuskee District Rep., 2 terms; sponsored funding for Okfuskee District nutrition programs, church renovation, and legal rights; member, Council community services committee; and quality improvement committee, tribal health system

Reason for seeking office: I have many years of experience advocating Indian rights from cultural, religious, and economic backgrounds. I will serve Creek citizens of the Okfuskee District, including absentee citizens. From personal experience, I believe our Creek citizens need a voice in tribal government regardless of where they live. A true representative of the people will not forget to whom they are responsible. They will not become puppets for other government officials, but make decisions based on their constituents' needs. This concept has been foremost in my mind during my four-year tenure as a National Council member and it will continue if re-elected.



Oklfuskee District Seat A

Name: Nancy S. Watson

Age: 39

Residence: Okemah

Family: two daughters, Angie and Alison

Parents: Calvin and the late Agnes Fixico West

Clan: Deer

Church: Prairie Springs

Ground and-or tribal town: Okfuskee

Political, professional experience: Indian education parent committee member

Reason for seeking office: I agreed to become a candidate for the National Council because I feel that I can do more for my people by being a part of the decision-making body. I feel that the people should be a part of that decision making branch and as a representative I can voice their input. I feel that I can better inform the people of issues that concern their lives and can ensure that their concerns are met and acted upon. I am a candidate for the people.



Oklfuskee District Seat A

Name: Tommy Joe Yahola

Age: 57

Residence:

Cromwell

Family: wife, June; sons, Joe, David, and Richard

Parents: Alonzo and Florence Yahola

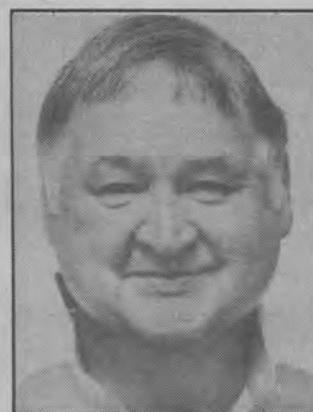
Clan: Wind

Church: Baptist

Ground and-or tribal town: Fish Pond

Political, professional experience: past school board member; quality control, civil service, 32 yrs.; U.S. Army Reserve, 32 yrs.; operate Arabian horse farm

Reason for seeking office: I seek the office because of the need to help the Creek Nation grow, and to see that educational needs are used by the youth. I intend to vote the way the people of my area want me to and I intend to stand for what is right and to provide all information to my district.



Oklfuskee District Seat B

Name: Eugene Birdcreek, incumbent

Age: 63

Residence: Weleetka

Family: wife, Dora Mae; four children; 12 grandchildren; one great-grandchild

Parents: Mose and Mesala Birdcreek

Clan: Deer

Ground and-or tribal town: Weogufkee

Political, professional experience:

Okfuskee District representative, 2 terms; tribal affairs committee; road committee

Reason for seeking office: As a Councilman, I have seen many people that need assistance in all areas of life throughout my district. If re-elected, I will continue to work for all people. I will do the best job I can to meet further educational and health needs in my district and throughout the Creek Nation.



Muscogee Council Election '93

Olkuskee District Seat B

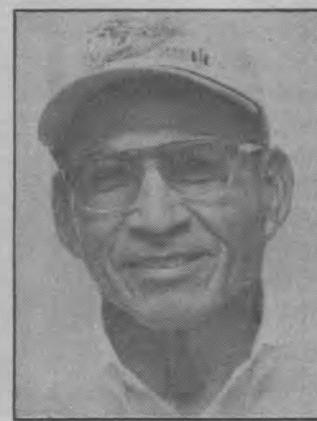
Name: Bruce Smith
Age: 37
Residence: Weleetka
Family: wife, Vicki; children, Cheryl and Jason
Parents: Sarah Riley and the late Willis Smith
Political, professional experience: Creek Nation Arg-Business, 1978 - 1986; Okfuskee County District 3; Van Eaton Construction Co.



Reason for seeking office: I became familiar with tribal procedures and administration during the time I was employed with the agribusiness and I gained knowledge on the local level while working for four years with Okfuskee County, District 3. I believe I can assist in accomplishing the reactivation of the agribusiness with a new plan and qualified management to provide income and employment. Also among my objectives are: improving church and ceremonial ground needs by placing them on BIA roads priority list; assisting the Paden Indian Community to establish a community charter; and surveying the Okfuskee District needs in housing, employment, and health care. I believe I am qualified and eager to become involved in tribal affairs.

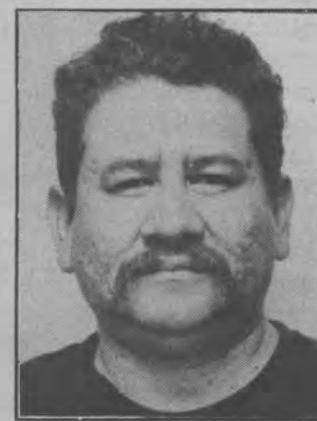
Olkuskee District Seat C

Name: Clyde Press Johnson, incumbent
No other information submitted.



Olkuskee District Seat C

Name: Tony Martin
Age: 40
Address: Okemah
Clan: Wind
Church: Thlophlocco
Ground and-or tribal town: Kialegee
Political, professional experience: king, Kialegee Tribal Town
Reason for seeking office: None given



Olkuskee District Seat D

Name: Wynema Judy Roberts, incumbent
Age: 42
Residence: Okemah
Parents: Stella and the late Cainey Roberts Sr.
Clan: Alligator
Church: Nuyaka
Ground and-or tribal town: Nuyaka
Political, professional experience: National Council, 2 yrs.; and worked within the Creek Nation, 11 yrs.



Reason for seeking office: I believe we need to have input from the people and I feel I have always voiced the needs and wants of the Creek people. My main and the most important goal is to provide more services to all our Indian people. My concerns are mainly with our deteriorating health care, education and employment programs. I feel I have voiced my concerns for the for all citizens and am capable of serving all Creek citizens. With this in mind, and with my past voting records I believe the citizens will prevail in this election.

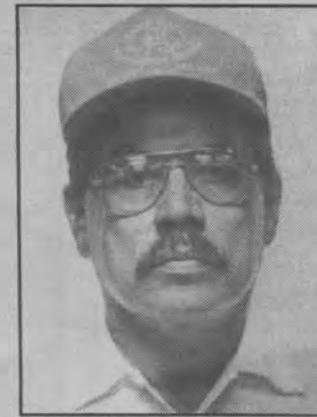
Olkuskee District Seat D

Name: Billy Ray Williams
Age: 55
Residence: Weleetka
Family: children, Marty Ray Williams and Pamela Sue Lawson
Parents: Irvin and Alice Wesley Williams
Clan: Raccoon
Ground and-or tribal town: Okfuskee
Reason for seeking office: I believe I could serve my community and the Creek people as a National Council representative. I have been associated with the Weleetka Indian Community and have served as chairman for the past two years. During this time, I have helped and seen the problems of the elderly and youthful citizens. I have served for the past 12 years as secretary of the Muskogee Indian Credit Association, which has enabled Indian people to obtain loans for businesses or to purchase homes. I am a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner. I have been self-employed for 20 years at Williams Auto Repair in Henryetta, which has provided me with the understanding of good business management.



Oklmulgee District Seat A

Name: Harvey Gilroy, incumbent
Age: 51
Address: Henryetta
Family: wife, Gloria; sons, Jody and Mike; daughter, Mindy.
Parents: Hepsey and the late Clemon Gilroy
Clan: Wind
Church: Wilson Baptist
Ground and-or tribal town: Kialagee
Political, professional experience: Democrat; road foreman, Okmulgee County district 3; chair, Wilson Indian Community; member, board of directors, Okmulgee Cattleman's Association
Reason for seeking office: As a Council member, I will be able to help my people. I consider myself an independent thinker with an interest in all Creek citizens. I thoroughly think through all aspects of proposals brought before the Council, before I cast my vote. I consider the question "what is best for all" when casting my vote. I have worked hard to establish rural fire protection because I believe each of you deserve this kind of protection. I also believe each of you deserve a job and a look at my voting record will reveal my interest in education and economic development. Once again, I ask for your support and I will do my best to serve you.



Muscogee Council Election '93

Okmulgee District Seat A

Name: Felix Haynes

Age: 48

Residence:

Okmulgee

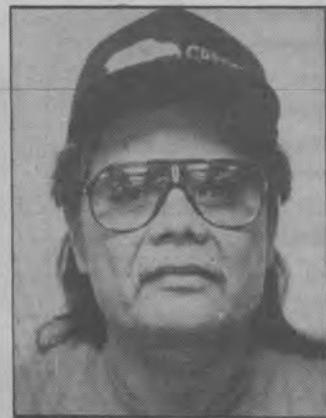
Family: wife, Gloria; children, Felicia Chuckluck, Leslie Stone, and Jay Haynes; two grandchildren.

Parents: Annie and the late Jay Haynes; grandparents, Abel and Tootchie Fields, John and Ollie Morris Haynes; nephew of Rev. Roley Haynes

Clan: Bird

Ground and-or tribal town: Hickory Ground

Reason for seeking office: I will be there for my people to help them maintain what Creeks have stood for throughout history. People should know that they are not alone in what they want in life. The people don't always have to be forced to accept the answers that they get. Sometimes there is another way. We need to keep our self-image as Indian people and our enthusiasm alive. We should not stop our interest in tribal government at the voting booth. There is always more we can do. I challenge Creeks to contact their representatives and administrators as to what they want from our government. If elected, I will not accept the monthly salary from the Creek Nation to serve as a Council representative.



Okmulgee District Seat A

Name: David Lewis

Age: 59

Residence:

Henryetta

Family: wife, Lillie; children, Ronnie, Richard, Diane, and Sharon

Parents: the late Rev. David B. Lewis Sr.

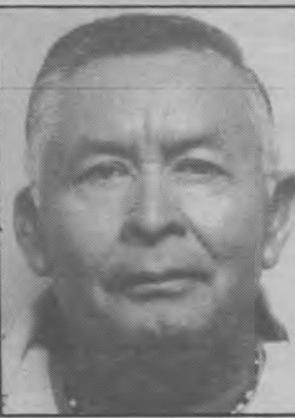
Clan: Bird

Church: West Eufaula

Ground and-or tribal town: Hickory Ground

Political, professional experience: I am the main medicine man of the Creek tribe; housing inspector, ESA; specification writer, ESA; an assistance director of the alcohol and drug center, Ada

Reason for seeking office: I have seen important bills defeated because of absent Council representatives. We cannot have this to be an effective government. I will always be there to represent you. I am in contact with our Creek people everyday as an inspector on houses, making emergency repair on their houses, or in making medicine for my people. I understand what their needs are and how it must be done and this will be accomplished by aggressive work on my part. Many Creeks know that I can work with all people and I will continue to do so on your behalf. I ask for your help so I may be able to help you and our future generation. Mvto.



Okmulgee District Seat B

Name: Thomas Berryhill, incumbent

No other information submitted.



Okmulgee District Seat B

Name: Anderson

Hale

Age: 49

Address: Mounds

Family: wife, Norma; son, William N.

Parents: the late Billy and Lucy Coker Hale

Clan: Wind

Church: Snake Creek

Ground and-or tribal town: New Tulsa, Fish Pond

Political, professional experience:

part-time aide in the machine tool program, Tulsa Technology Center

Reason for seeking office: There is a need for better representation for the elderly, high school, and college bound students in the Okmulgee District. This audience has not been told what programs or services are available to them because of a lack of communication from the district representative. I believe it is essential the district representative attend the community meetings. As we approach the 21st century the Creek Nation needs to address and train our young people in the new fields of technology to meet the employment problem. Mvto.



Okmulgee District Seat B

Name: Eugenia Kelly

Age: 33

Residence:

Okmulgee

Parents: Eugene and Rose Kelly

Clan: Deer

Church: Nondenominational

Ground and-or tribal town:

Weogufkee

Political, professional experience:

many offices from refreshment committee chair to university Indian student president; registered nurse, bachelor's degree, nursing

Reason for seeking office: The administration is two years old — enough time to get their act together. However, what I see is a chaotic government, almost like that in Russia. I am seeking office, not just standing by and voting. I want to help navigate change. As a voter, I'm disappointed by the people I helped to office. The elderly and youth are my top priority, followed by education. Beginning the fiscal year, these groups have monies budgeted, then by spring they're broke. This must stop. Children are the tribe's future and the elderly are the tribe's past. I'm a caring person. Often, I offer free professional service to citizens. I'm not employed by the tribe. I believe the administration sees to it I will not be there to help my people. Now, I work toward the future. Mvto.



Okmulgee District Seat C

Name: Charlie Litsey, incumbent

Age: 63

Residence: Okmulgee

Family: wife, Dorothy; children, James and Dale

Parents: Katie Fish and Sid Litsey

Clan: Bear

Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee

Political, professional experience:

Creek Nation National Council representative, 2 terms

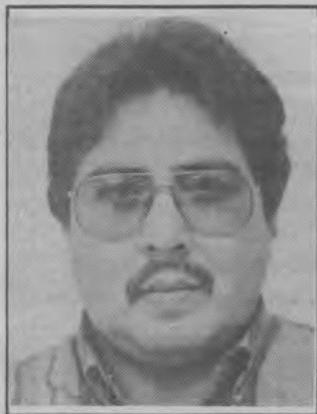
Reason for seeking office: I have attended all committee meetings and all regular council meetings as well as maintaining close contact with the people at the community centers. I have authored bills and have voted on the issues to benefit the Creek citizens. If re-elected I will continue to be a working representative for the people. I ask for your continued support and your vote.



Muscogee Council Election '93

Okmulgee District Seat C

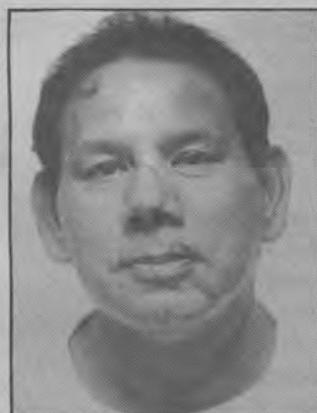
Name: Emanuel Morgan
Age: 39
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Pat; children, Louis and Danielle
Parents: the late Don and Pauline Harjo Morgan
Clan: Deer
Church: Honey Creek
Ground and-or tribal town:



Political, professional experience: bachelor's degree, political science and business education; administrative work experience with tribal, federal, and state programs, 14 yrs.
Reason for seeking office: Since graduating from college, I have been committed to working with Indian organizations and the Creek people. I am continuing that commitment by running for National Council representative. I have a sincere desire to serve the needs of the Creek people. Too often their concerns are not brought to the Council. When I am elected I will work for the needs of all Creek citizens in the Okmulgee District. I pledge to represent all citizens — the young, middle aged, elderly — equally and with integrity. I will work with the administration in returning tribal government to the people. I will need your vote to help build a better tribal government.

Okmulgee District Seat D

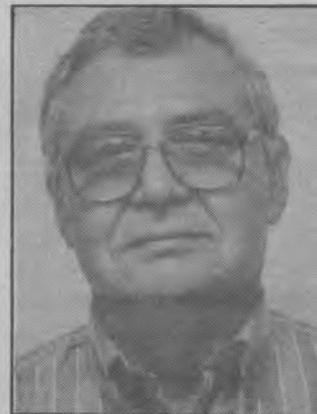
Name: Fred Jones
Age: 44
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Sandra; children, Patrick, Wayne, and Brian Daniel
Parents: Walter and the late Mary Yahola Jones
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Montesoma
Ground and-or tribal town: Nuyaka



Reason for seeking office: I have identified five areas I believe should be addressed as a National Council representative. Those are: senior citizens; education; Council responsibilities; the family; and the future. More should be done for our senior citizens. We should invest more in education for our youth and Council members need to be accountable to the people they represent. On the family issue, I have been blessed to come from a strong Creek family background that spoke the Creek language and to have respect for our elders. As for the future, we need to be working together and I am willing to be a part of that team.

Okmulgee District Seat C

Name: Rex Watson
Age: 61
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: sons, Kevin Wayne and Julian Blair
Parents: the late John and Fannie Watson
Clan: Wind
Church: Arbeka Baptist
Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee

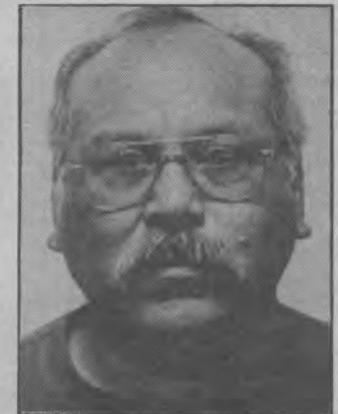


Political, professional experience: Euchee Mission Boarding School, Sapulpa; completed courses in diesel mechanic and heavy equipment, OSU-Okmulgee; U.S. Air Force and Korean conflict veteran; Democrat; and employed as a community health representative for the Okmulgee area, Muscogee Nation

Reason for seeking office: The opportunity to help my community and serve all the Creek people is the reason I am seeking the office. My goal is to work to protect rights and benefits of tribal members, promote the economic independence and advancement of issues concerning the Creek people. I will dedicate myself to serving each individual to the best of my ability.

Okmulgee District Seat D

Name: Jim B. Harjo, incumbent
Age: 46
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Nettie Coser Harjo; three children
Parents: the late Jim B. and Lena Wind Harjo
Clan: Bear
Church: Baptist
Ground and-or tribal town: Alabama-Quassarte

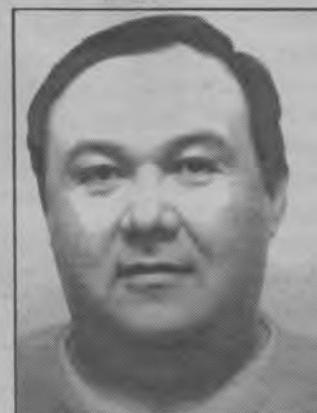


Political, professional experience: National Council representative; committee member, tribal affairs; member, governing and enrollment committees, Alabama-Quarssarte Tribal Town; chair, JOM committee, Weleetka and Dustin; correctional officer and reserve officer, Creek Nation lighthouse

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking re-election to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council because of my concern for the people. I was elected in December, 1992 to my present position. I feel I have gained the experience to continue making decisions that are of sound judgement. I have seen the need to assist individuals and have assisted them in the area of health, education, and social services. A Council representative needs to be open-minded to opinions from constituents and I feel I have done this and will continue to do so.

Okmulgee District Seat E

Name: David Nichols
Age: 37
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Ginger; sons, David Jr. and Jason
Parents: Bob Harjo and Joann Nichols
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Salt Creek United Methodist
Ground and-or tribal town: Tuckabatchee



Political, professional experience: graduate, Okmulgee High School; I entered the work force in 1974 and have had three jobs up to my present employment

Reason for seeking office: I am running for Council seat E in the Okmulgee District to represent the people so they may be heard and have some input into tribal affairs. I believe the people of the Creek Nation play an important part of our future. The elders as well as our young should be heard and I am willing to listen. I will always be available to the people. When casting my vote I will be thinking in the best interest of all the people as well as the tribe's future.

Okmulgee District Seat E

Name: July Tecumseh
Age: 41
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: wife, Norma Jean; children, Tullemarsey Noah, Yvhv-etv Moses, and Tysie Espoke
Parents: Isreal Tecumseh and Wisey Scott
Clan: Tiger
Church: Concharty
Ground and-or tribal town: Concharty



Reason for seeking office: I intend to be a visible voice for the Creek citizens, who I believe have been neglected. There have been laws passed, bills introduced, grants, and funds available all without the knowledge of the majority of the Creek people. This must be changed. I want to bring about a better working relationship between the Chief and the National Council and help establish more communities, which will help in the involvement in our national government. I hope to bring in ethics, pride, and the knowledge of power, which I believe is now nonexistent.

Muscogee Council Election '93

Oklmulgee District Seat E

Name: George Tiger, incumbent

Age: 43

Residence:

Oklmulgee

Family: children, Chebon, Gina, Greg, and Chris

Parents: the late Rev. Coody and Lela McNac Tiger

Clan: Wind

Church: Yardeka

Ground and-or tribal

town: Hickory

Ground

Political, professional experience: Council representative, 1 term; vice chair, business and governmental committee; vice-chair, UINO; president, Haskell Jr. College regents; member, American Indian Chamber of Commerce; host, producer, Inside Native America; sports director, KOKL radio

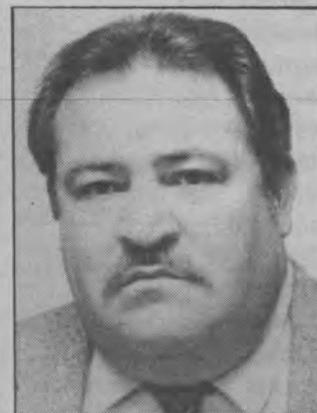
Reason for seeking office: I want to continue working on health, housing, education, and economic development projects that benefit all tribal members. With the experience I've attained serving on the Council and the business and governmental operations committee, I feel the nation's future holds great promise. The success of any nation is based on its people. Through hard work and as a united people, the Muscogee Nation can succeed in any endeavor. I would like to serve as a member of Council, the heart of government, pursuing all things that provide a better life for Creek people. I am seven-eighths Muscogee.



Oklmulgee District Seat E

Name: Bobby Williams

No other information submitted.



Oklmulgee District Seat F

Name: A.D. Ellis, incumbent

Age: 57

Residence: Beggs

Family: wife, Sue

Parents: Nellie Bruner and Doolie Ellis

Clan: Turtle

Church: Concharty

Ground and-or tribal

town: Concharty

Political, profes-

sional experience: retired from the Teamsters Union; currently self employed



Reason for seeking office: I intend to place health care for the elderly, education for the young, and jobs for those in between the age groups as the top priority for the Creek Nation administration and Council. Our elderly citizens have moved this nation to where it is today. Now they have turned it over to a new generation and we must look ahead where we can do the same. Let us work together and make it a better place to live and work when we turn it over to the younger members of the tribe, who will be better educated.

Oklmulgee District Seat F

Name: Donald Washington

Age: 42

Residence: Morris

Family: wife, Jeanette; sons, Thomas, Wyatt, and Cetto-Mekko; and daughter, Donna.

Parents: Faldo and Lillian Washington

Church: Newtown, also attend Concharty

Political, profes-

sional experience: planning department, Creek Nation, 3 yrs.; tribal agribusiness, omniplex, Tulsa bingo hall, various other projects, Creek Nation, 3 yrs.; Sinclair Oil Co.; Williams Telecommunications; Mid-America Pipeline; and Williams Brothers Engineering; graduate, Sequoyah High School; Associate of Science degree, drafting and design, OSU-Oklmulgee

Reason for seeking office: I intend to use my experience to help the Creek tribe develop economically through a more efficient use of the available assets. There is a need to find out the problems the Creek people have and to find answers and solutions.



Oklmulgee District Seat G

Name: Charlotte Anderson

Address: Beggs

Family: husband, Bill; children, Jennifer Floyd, Salli Kauplen, Suzanne McIntosh.

Church: Beggs Baptist

Political, profes-

sional experience: coordinator, Title IV, Part A program, Indian Education, Beggs High School.



Reason for seeking office: I intend to represent the Creek people in all aspects and to place education as a priority. I also believe the heritage and culture of our people needs to be implemented into the public school systems within the Creek Nation.

Oklmulgee District Seat G

Name: Dan D. Burgess

Age: 57

Residence: Henryetta

Family: son, Danny Jr.

Parents: the late Daniel and Flora Burgess

Clan: Fox

Church: Church of Christ

Ground and-or tribal

town: Cussetah

Political, profes-

sional experience: B.A. education, NSU; additional hours, NSU; developed proposal to contract BIA higher education; tribal scholarship officer, 9 yrs.; tribal healthcare system personnel officer; industrial radiographer; precinct chair Democratic party; delegate, Demo.state convention; founder, president, Oklahoma Indian Higher Education Scholarship Officers Association



Reason for seeking office: To bring my extensive experience working for state, federal, and tribal programs to the Council in an effort to improve the relationship between the three branches of government. I believe that if we get out of the feathering-our-own-nest way of thinking, the tribe has a bright future. I want to use my experience to work for more available health care and educational opportunities for all citizens. I believe preventative medicine and education results in more efficient use of funds, allowing more to receive services. These are the things I will work toward if elected.

Muscogee Council Election '93

Okmulgee District Seat G

Name: Robert Jones

Age: 49

Residence:

Okmulgee

Family: children,

Ryan and Renee

Parents: Elmer

Jones and the late

Elsie Roberts

Clan: Eco (Deer)

Church: Belvin

Baptist

Ground and-or

tribal town: Nuyaka

Reason for seeking

office: I have served

as a volunteer in different organizations and causes and now I seek this opportunity to serve all members of the Este Mvskokulke. It is time for us to unite for the benefit and joy of the future of the Creek Nation. I have the time, the knowledge, and the means to serve in this capacity. I will serve all the people.



Okmulgee District Seat G

Name: Peggy Lyda

Age: 53

Residence:

Okmulgee

Family: husband,

Recy; children, Sherry

Thomas, Tara Lyda,

Kevin and Cindy

Brown

Parents: Bernice

Harjo and the late

Albert Thomas

Clan: Raccoon

Church: Wetumka

Indian Baptist

Ground and-or tribal

town: Wewoka

Political, professional experience: industrial electronics supervisor, 6 yrs.; switchboard operator, Creek Nation, 7 yrs.; familiar with tribal programs and services; board of directors, Okmulgee County Association for the mentally retarded; workshop supervisor, O.K. Work Activity Center for the physically and mentally disabled

Reason for seeking office: My objective in seeking the office is to give the Creek people in the Okmulgee District a way of having their voices effectively heard. I am full blood Creek with the ability to understand the Creek language, which I feel are important in representing the Creek people. I took my job with the Creek Nation very seriously and plan to do the same as a representative. I have kept myself informed of the government, which affects us all. I hope to continue in this direction as an Okmulgee representative.



Okmulgee District Seat G

Name: Karen Mackey

Age: 37

Residence: Okmulgee

Family: children,

Jenna and Bonnie

Parents: Sylvia Lee

and the late Allen

Mackey

Church: Schulter

Christian Assembly

Ground and-or tribal

town: Tulsa Canadian

Political, professional

experience: employed with various tribal departments, 12 yrs.; presently employed, Creek Nation Housing Authority;

secretary, National Council, 1989-92

Reason for seeking office: I intend to see honesty brought back into tribal government and representatives who are responsible in their decision making process. I want to be involved in the process of ending wasteful spending and put that money into programs to provide better services to the citizens. I see a need for legislation in providing services for citizens left out of receiving assistance because their eligibility is outside the program guidelines. Many average citizens are deserving of help and too often they are left with no other source of help. We must help all people.



Tulsa District Seat A

Name: Larry S. Bible,

incumbent

Age: 42

Residence: Glenpool

Family: wife,

Michele; children,

Jarod, Gabriel,

Andrea, and Larry Jr.

Parents: the late

Andy and Joann Bible

Clan: Bird

Ground and-or tribal

town: Locvpokv

Political, profes-

sional experience:

National Council representative, five terms; second speaker present Council; former member, Glenpool city council; chief of police, City of Glenpool, 12 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: The Creek Nation, with its proclamation of self-governance and the issue of sovereignty still being questioned by the non-Indian entities and governments, will prevail with strong leadership. I want to continue working on behalf of our citizens and be involved in the decision-making process on the issues that affect the welfare of our citizens and nation. I will continue to vote on issues on their merits and not on personal prejudices, jealousies, likes, and-or dislikes. I, if it is the will of the Creek citizens, will represent them to the best of my ability. Mvto.



Tulsa District Seat B

Name: Irene Cleghorn, incumbent

No other information submitted.



Tulsa District Seat B

Name: Stanley McGilbray

Age: 42

Residence: Tulsa

Family: wife, Phyllis;

children, Heather and

Tyler

Parents: Joe and Vera

McGilbray

Clan: Raccoon

Church: Christ United

Methodist

Ground and-or tribal

town: Tuckabatchee

Political, professional

experience: Marine Corp personnel and administration school; 32 hours liberal arts, Tulsa Junior College; small business management, 3 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: We are all faced with the issues of health care, employment opportunities, education, the well being of our families, and culture in our ever changing society. I am seeking this position because of my desire to be an active listener and proactive voice for representing members of the Creek Nation in the Tulsa District. I seek the opportunity to communicate your needs on these issues to the Council and leaders of the Creek Nation and to help find answers to these issues.



Muscogee Council Election '93

Tulsa District Seat B

Name: Carol Asbury

Morris

Age: 53

Residence: Tulsa

Family: son, Artussee

Parents: Joe Asbury and Lillie Lewis

Asbury

Clan: Bear

Church: Baptist

Ground and-or tribal town: Kialegee

Political, professional experience:

I have been involved in community affairs

Reason for seeking office: The more I have become involved in our community affairs I have realized the needs of our people. Our Council representatives should be more in touch with their constituents than they have been. This is one of the reasons I am running for the council.



Tulsa District Seat C

Name: Edwin S. Moore

Age: 53

Residence: Tulsa

Family: wife, Linda; children, James, Greg, Rodney, Marcie, Mike; step-daughters, Samatha and Melanie

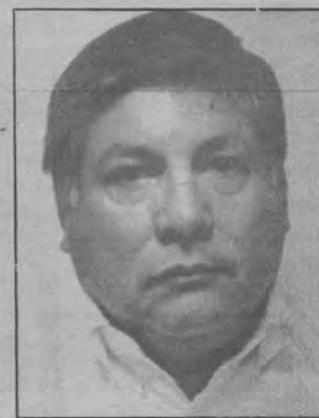
Parents: Edwin S. Moore Sr.

Clan: Bear

Church: Big

Cussetah United

Methodist



Tulsa District Seat C

Name: Velva Stout

Age: 47

Residence: Glenpool

Family: daughter, Angela Searcy; grandchildren, Josh Stout, Jeffery Searcy

Parents: Sam and Lydia Chisholm

Clan: Bird

Church: Haikey Chapel

Ground and-or tribal town: Locvpokv

Reason for seeking office:

There are many reasons I am seeking office. My vision is in bringing about a new perspective through a positive and strong leadership role as the Tulsa District representative Seat C. Unity, information, advocacy, support, development, innovation, accessibility are a few of the tools I will use in bringing about this new perspective. I realize the needs in the areas of health, education, culture, housing, and the general welfare of our people. I seek the opportunity to not only assert new ideas in meeting these needs, but support those people and programs already in place, meeting those needs. I am asking for your vote on Oct. 23. Mvto.



Tulsa District Seat C

Name: Toske Willits

Age: 55

Residence: Tulsa

Family: wife, Paula; and daughter, Cochana

Parents: Ben and Sue Willits

Clan: Deer

Church: Indian

Fellowship Baptist

Ground and-or tribal town: Hitchita

Political, professional experience:

citizenship board, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, 15 yrs.; tribal election board, 3 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: I have been active in the Tulsa Creek Indian Community for the last two years and have noted that while Tulsa has a large population of Creek Indians, only a few attend community meetings. As a district representative, I would look for ways to get more people interested and involved in the community. I would continue efforts for not only a community center in Tulsa, but to develop a land base for future growth and to create more economic development opportunities. With over 6,000 registered Creek citizens in Tulsa, we can make things happen if we work together.



Tulsa District Seat D

Name: Bim Stephen Bruner, incumbent

No other information submitted.



Tulsa District Seat E

Name: Darrell Chissoe

Age: 28

Residence: Tulsa

Parents: Paul and Bette Chissoe

Clan: Turtle

Church: Springtown

Ground and-or tribal town: Tulsa

Reason for seeking office:

Growing up, I have always been proud of my heritage. I have found myself becoming more

interested in Indian affairs, my community, as well as our nation. I will have the initiative, involvement, and interest in our people to keep our policies and traditions going so that they may be passed on to the next generations. I am seeking Council because I feel that I can contribute my time and effort to the needs of the Creek Nation.



Muscogee Council Election '93

Tulsa District Seat E

Name: Jesse F. Kelley

Age: 47

Residence: Tulsa

Family: wife, Barbara; son, Lance
Parents: the late Mary Charley Day and the late Jesse A. Kelley

Clan: Bear

Church: Hailey Chapel

Ground and-or tribal town:
Locvpokv

Political, professional experience: U.S. Marine Corps, 1966-68; president, Broken Arrow Indian Club, 1973-79; tribal election board, 1992-93; chair, election board, 1993; retail bakery manager, 15 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking office to represent and serve our everyday Creek citizens. As Councilman, a priority will be to provide information to tribal members so they are adequately informed of benefits available to them. With over seven years tribal government experience and with the election board, I've seen how government works. I'm familiar with ways we can improve services to tribal members. I believe in checks and balances in tribal government. As an active Tulsa community member, I've supported many events of our people. I will bring honesty, integrity, and most important, fairness to all Creek citizens of the Tulsa District.



Tulsa District Seat E

Name: Loretta Pat Kelly, incumbent

Age: 53

Residence: Tulsa

Family: husband, Earl; children, Julie, Kenneth, Matt Wilson, Charles, Shannon, Chris, Tonya LeGrand
Parents: Melissa McCoy; grandparents, Ben and Sallie Tiger

Clan: Fuswa (bird)
Ground and-or tribal town: Tulsa Canadian



Political, professional experience: member, Oklahoma Indian Bar Association; member, National Indian Education Association; trustee, Creek Indian Memorial Association, 8 yrs.; speaker's designate, lighthorse administration

Reason for seeking office: I seek re-election because there remains the need for passage of additional legislation to serve citizens. Of the 27 bills I have introduced, 26 have been enacted by the National Council and signed into law by the Chief. Three of the most important are the comprehensive juvenile and family code, the self-governance compact, and the drug testing policy act. I will continue to work on a tribal ethics code to bring about accountability, which is now absent from our tribal structure. To the Tulsa District, I will continue to work for a community center and to make sure the district receives all the benefits our citizens have a right to expect.

Tulsa District Seat F

Name: Earl King

Age: 53

Address: Tulsa

Family: daughter, Melaine; and son, David Mekko

Parents: Rev. David and Annie King

Clan: Deer

Church: Montesoma

Ground and-or tribal town: Nuyaka

Political, professional experience: vice-chair, Tulsa Creek Indian Community;



chair, economic development committee; smoke shop committee; and member, building search committee; past member, board of directors, Claremore Indian Hospital; former chair, Okfuskee Indian Community; chair, Okfuskee economic development team

Reason for seeking office: I have decided to run for this office to provide true and honest representation on the National Council for Creeks living in the Tulsa District. Additionally, I will work closely with the other Council members and the Principal Chief to bring about true tribal self-determination, self-governance, and protect the sovereignty rights of the Muscogee Nation. I will introduce and support legislation that will provide economic and employment opportunities for Creek citizens, such as quality health care and better housing. Education will always be a priority, including a better service network that promotes accessibility to tribal programs for all Creeks.

Tulsa District Seat F

Name: Okema Randall, incumbent

Residence: Tulsa

Family: husband, Les; children, Rodney, Michelle Wolfvoice, and Shonday Harmon
Parents: the late Mitchell and Louise Boudinot

Clan: Deer

Ground and-or tribal town: Koweta

Political, professional experience:

vice-chair, Tulsa Creek Indian Community, 2 terms; chair, Broken Arrow Indian Club, 2 terms; member, Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women and the Kihekah Steh Club

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking the office to complete unfinished projects I have started while serving as the Tulsa District representative. Those projects are funding for graduate students, re-establishment of communities and better representation. My goal has been to vote for the people I represent. The National Council is the governing body of the tribe and all the representatives need to think through all issues before voting. I intend to follow that rule.



Tulsa District Seat F

Name: Richard Wilde

Residence: Tulsa

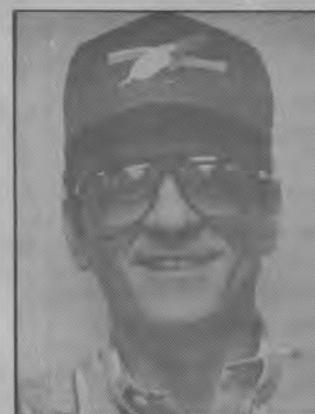
Family: children, Richard Jason and Melanie Danielle

Parents: Kathryn N. Bible Jones; grandparents, the late Dave Bible and Leona Agnes Grayson Bemo
Clan: Bird

Church: Springtown
Ground and-or tribal town: Broken Arrow

Political, professional experience:

honorable discharge, U.S. Navy, 1970-74; past chair, Tulsa Creek Indian Community; Associate's of Science degree, legal assistance, Tulsa Jr. College



Reason for seeking office: I seek the office to uphold the Creek Nation status as a sovereign nation and to see that there is continued improvement within our executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. I would seek to pursue increased economic development and diversification for the benefit of our nation and people. I would see that the objectives of the National Council are continually focusing on the nation and not from a single community stand point, nor from an individual perspective.

Tulsa District Seat G

Name: Robert Perry Beaver

Age: 54

Residence: Jenks

Family: wife, Mariam; children, Brant, Brent, Robin, and Del

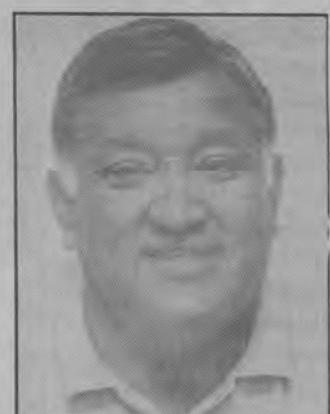
Parents: the late John and Della Beaver

Clan: Deer

Church: Big Cussetah

Ground and-or tribal town: Weogufkee

Political, professional experience:



National Council rep., 2 yrs.; Second Chief, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, 6 yrs.; teacher, coach, Jenks Public Schools, 26 yrs.

Reason for seeking office: My political experience as a member of the National Council for two years and as the Second Chief for six years can best serve you, the Creek people, as your representative for the Tulsa District and the Creek Nation. Being a teacher and coach for 26 years has prepared me to be able to work with people in a leadership role. I will always listen to the Creek citizens and work in the best interest of the Creek Nation and its citizens.

Muscogee Council Election '93

Tulsa District Seat G

Name: Marsha L. Fannings
Age: 25
Residence: Tulsa
Parents: Mary Miller Clark and Darryl Young
Clan: Bear
Church: First Creek Indian Baptist
Ground and-or tribal town: Koweta
Political, professional experience: self-employed, hair stylist, 8 yrs.; long-term member, Fellowship of Christian Athletes; treasurer, Future Business Leaders of America; participated in competitive sports, including festival olympics from the Koweta community.



Reason for seeking office: As a representative, I will emphasize our culture and heritage and encourage younger generations to maintain it. It is important for me to work towards ensuring the continued existence of our tribal government, as a sovereign nation. I will set an example and be a role model for younger generations to emulate. The opportunity to serve the Tulsa District will be rewarding and one of the most important challenges I have attempted. I wish to serve our people and for those yet to be born and always in the spirit of our forefathers. I will pursue economic development, job creation, the opportunity for all Muscogee people to have adequate health care, housing, and the provision of education opportunities.

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Seat A

Name: Patricia M. Sarty Campbell
Age: 52
Residence: Coweta
Family: two sons, Frank and Travis; daughter, Mona
Parents: Homer and Edna Sarty
Church: Davis Chapel
Reason for seeking office: I am seeking the office of Council for Wagoner-Rogers-



Mayes District to help educate the people in the business affairs of the Creek Nation. Also, the education of the people will better equip them to ask questions and express their needs to me and in return, I will be better equipped to properly represent them at the Council. I believe my past experience working with the Creek Nation and my family's long association with the tribe has given me good insight and experience to qualify me for the job.

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Seat A

Name: Richard Berryhill, incumbent
Age: 49
Residence: Coweta
Family: wife, Wilma L. Miller Berryhill
Parents: Viola C. McIntosh and Sam Berryhill
Clan: Fuswa (Bird)
Church: Cedar Creek
Ground and-or tribal town: Hitchiti
Political, professional experience:

National Council representative, 4 yrs.; chair, community烟shop board; 3 yrs.; past chair, Koweta Indian Community, 2 yrs.; vice-chair and sergeant-of-arms, Koweta Indian Community

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking the office for many reasons, but helping our people is the top priority. Building a strong government to ensure our tribe's future is also important as is tribal sovereignty, economic development, self-governance and a renewed interest in the culture and language of our people. There are still many problems I would like to help solve so we can instill pride in our people and make our young people proud to be Muscogee. I have gained much satisfaction being associated with all the citizens of our nation, and have been honored to serve our people.



Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Seat A

Name: Marie Crittenden
Age: 71
Residence: Coweta
Family: children, Lewis Haynes and Helen Duncan
Parents: the late Lewis and Martha Tiger Miller
Clan: Tiger
Church: Broken Arrow United Indian Methodist

Ground and-or tribal town: Koweta

Political, professional

experience: McDonnell-Douglas employee, 25 yrs.; church treasurer, 5 yrs.; current treasurer, Camp No. 4 Association, Northeast District Methodist Center

Reason for seeking office: I have been interested in doing my part to help the people of the district for several years. In the past I campaigned for the present representative and he has fulfilled his duties. However, I believe in changes and anyone that has held a representative position for any length of time may have a tendency to become lax. I am retired and have plenty of time to devote to this job and be a good representative for the people.



Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Seat B

Name: Harry G. Perryman
Age: 46
Residence: Coweta
Family: children, Gregory, Denise, and Darlene
Parents: Sam and Ethel Perryman
Church: Broken Arrow United Indian Methodist

Ground and-or tribal town: Koweta

Political, professional

experience: military missile site manager, 22 yrs.; secretary, Koweta Indian Community, 1991

Reason for seeking office: I seek the office to help people and to do all that can be done on their behalf. I believe all components of the tribe should work together toward beneficial long-term goals.



Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes Seat B

Name: Barbara Gillispie
Age: 55
Residence: Coweta
Family: husband, Donald; children, Larry, Gary
Parents: The late Mose and Violet Freeman Childers
Clan: Potato
Church: Coweta First Baptist
Ground and-or tribal town:

Locvpokv

Political, professional experience: licensed real estate broker; owner-operator, service station, 10 yrs.; president, Koweta Indian Community, 3 consecutive terms; other community offices; board member, Oklahoma Appaloosa State Racing Association; board member, Coweta library

Reason for seeking office: I seek the office to help establish better accessibility to medical care in a timely manner, job training, help our youth to create an awareness of their skills and potential for career planning. There is a need to expand services to our elderly citizens and a need for job placement with the district. All services provided by the tribe should be distributed on an equal basis. The concerns of the citizens in the Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District will be a priority with me.



Council approves portion of comprehensive budget

More time needed to review \$85 million budget

by Noah Long

OKMULGEE — Growth of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is evident with a record \$85 million comprehensive budget for fiscal year 1994, which began Oct. 1.

However, the growth — and a late budget — has caused the National Council to approve funding for only one-sixth of the total budget as they conclude hearings from tribal programs.

The council made the decision during its regular monthly session on Sept. 25.

McIntosh District rep. Tommy Newton, business and governmental operations committee chair, said a delay in receiving the budget made it necessary for the resolution to fund one-sixth of the funds.

"The committee was not allowed sufficient time for a thorough and complete review of the tribal comprehensive budget," Newton said.

The committee started budget hearings in late August. The community services and tribal affairs committees have completed their review process.

The authorization assures continuation of tribal operations for at least two months. The bill allows for the allocation of approximately \$14.1 million (17 percent) for the continued operation of the government.

Pending final approval by the National Council, the proposed budget totals \$85,058,366.

Funding amounts are:

- executive branch, \$291,890;
- treasury, \$282,255;
- administration, \$2.2 million;
- human development, \$5.7 million;
- community services, \$5 million;
- tribal affairs, \$2 million;
- office of justice, \$201,000;
- legislative branch, \$670,000;
- judicial branch, \$460,000;

Notices

Tribe to offer tax workshop

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will conduct a free tax workshop at 9 a.m., Nov. 16 in the independent agencies (mound) building auditorium at the tribal capitol complex at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56. For more information, contact Steve Landsberry at (918) 756-8700, ext. 207.

Unity hosts gospel singing

OKMULGEE — Gospel recording group Unity's annual concert begins at 7 p.m., Nov. 6 at the tribal capitol complex in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Independent Agencies (mound) Building Auditorium. The building is located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Middle Creek No. 1 gospel singing set

LAMAR — Middle Creek No. 1 Baptist Church will hold a gospel singing at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 30. The church is located seven miles south of Dustin off state highway 9 or five miles north on the Lamar road.

Veterans dance

MUSKOGEE — American Indian war veterans will be honored by the Muskogee Indian Community with a breakfast Oct. 11 at the community center. It's located at 111 S. Virginia. All veterans are invited to attend.

Sequoyah alumni slates dance

TULSA — Alumni, former students, and the public are

- special appropriations, \$394,000;
- independent agencies, \$52 million; and
- health administration, \$16 million.

Executive director Jerry Wilson cited four reasons for the \$14 million increase.

"We added the Muskogee Bingo hall [operations] to the budget. With [the]self-governance act, we have more money. We had an increase in funding levels from various grant programs, and the health administration will [also] have an increase," Wilson said.

"Those are all good signs of a strong, and growing concern of the tribe," he said.

With a \$9 million proposed increase in the independent agencies, it represents the largest budget item. However, the total amount takes into account the employment and associated costs of all tribal employees and \$30 million for the bingo operations.

The independent agencies are boards, commissions, and authorities that receive direction and are accountable to the executive branch.

These include: the election board; citizenship board; lighthorse commission; gaming operations authority board; office of public gaming, tax commission, Creek Nation Foundation (funds are used to operate and maintain the elderly housing complex in Okmulgee); industrial development authority; Creek Nation construction; housing authority; farm authority; and agribusiness.

Gaming accounts for the largest component. The administration and operation expenses of the tribe's three bingo halls — Muskogee, Okmulgee, and Tulsa — totaled \$30 million.

Other agencies accounting for the total include \$19 million from the housing authority and \$1.3 from the lighthorse administration.

The health administration is expected to receive a \$4 million increase for the delivery of health care in FY '94. The

encouraged to attend a benefit dance for the Sequoyah Indian School Alumni Association, at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 16 at the Quality Inn Motel, located at Interstate 244 and Garnett Road. Admission is \$5 per person.

Okfuskee District forum

WELEETKA — An Okfuskee District candidates' forum will be held at 7 p.m., Oct. 11 in the Weleetka High School auditorium. Candidates for the Okfuskee District Muscogee (Creek) National Council will appear at the forum.

Adoption program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration will offer a training session for adoptive parents and prospective parents, Nov. 4 through 6 in Okmulgee. Persons interested in becoming adoptive parents should contact the children and family services special needs adoption program at (918) 756-2112 or 1-800-521-5432.

All-Indian men's basketball tourney set

MOUNDS — The Roundball Community Center is hosting an all-Indian men's five-on-five basketball tournament Oct. 22 through 24. Players must have certificate degree of Indian blood (CDIB) or a valid tribal enrollment card. The center is located one mile west of U.S. Highway 75 and 171st St. South. The entry fee is \$100. For more information, contact Al Kosofoski at (918) 298-0278, or James Wolfe at (918) 758-0737.

figure includes the operations of the Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah, four health and dental clinics in Eufaula, Okemah, Okmulgee, and Sapulpa.

Principal Chief Bill Fife told the Council he expects a new health clinic to open in Okmulgee this fiscal year. It too is included in the budget.

Wilson said the Council acted wisely in funding one-sixth of the budget during the meeting.

"The budget indicates the Principal Chief, Council and administrators place education as a high priority," Wilson said.

The comprehensive budget will allocate around \$6 million toward educational programs in FY '94.

The \$85 million budget is believed to be one of the highest among businesses and industry in Okmulgee.

Four hundred tribal employees make Creek Nation the largest employer in Okmulgee County, according to available figures from the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce.

"This budget shows the Muscogee Nation to be a progressive tribe," Wilson said. "The magnitude of the budget will have an impact on the tribe and with other governments and communities of which we are in partnership."

Council members have said they hope to complete their budget review process within 30 days.

The next regular session of the Council will be Oct. 30 at the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee.

Tribe to seek federal block grant funds for community services facility

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is seeking a \$500,000 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to build a community services facility.

The proposed community services facility would house the tribe's social services, children and family services programs as well as service programs to members of chartered Creek communities.

The office of administration and tribal affairs division of the executive branch are preparing the grant proposal for the Nov. 9 deadline.

Public comment is invited. Please direct comments and inquiries to: Sherwood Anderson, tribal affairs director, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Comments will be accepted through Oct. 25.

The Creek Nation is competing against the Cherokee, Chickasaw and Choctaw nations and the Osage tribe for block grant funds.

LEGAL NOTICE

In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee District, filed Sept. 3, 1993

In the Matter of:

Candy Lynn Stanke (JV-86-7); deprived child under 18 years of age

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation to:

Donald Arnett, putative father of Candy Lynn Stanke. You are hereby notified that termination hearing as to said child has been set in the above styled and numbered cause for 1:30 p.m. on the 15th day of November, 1993, before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore, District Judge, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at which time you are directed to appear on said date at said time.

Second Chief to lead drug awareness week; stresses education

by Shelly Crow, Second Chief

It is important the Muscogee (Creek) Nation work together to prevent the spread of drugs among our youth.

The Principal Chief has stated his 1994 focus is to strengthen our communities and families.

What better way than to establish our own Creek Nation Red Ribbon Week?

October 25 through 29 is Red Ribbon Week throughout Oklahoma. The office of the Principal Chief wants the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to be a leader in drug prevention with our children.

To kick off a drug awareness program within the Creek Nation, the tribe will be sponsoring a poster and essay contest for American Indian children. Categories will be developed and cash prizes will be awarded. Funds for this drug awareness event has been donated by the gaming operations authority board.

Watch for more details through your community centers, schools, and your Council representatives.

Education is another area that will strengthen our nation. Help your young children at home. The following are some ideas

to assist your children in learning at home:

— install a love of learning. Read to your infant or young child, or read with an older child, every day. Show your child that you enjoy reading. Take your child to the library regularly. Turn off the television for a set period every day;

— motivate your child. Build self-esteem. Teach your child to think positively. Teach self-discipline. Teach your young child to concentrate on the task at hand. Compliment him or her on jobs well done. Reward your child often! Make learning enjoyable. Create a special place for working together or doing homework. Break up larger tasks; your child will enjoy learning more if the learning is broken up into manageable parts. For younger children, about 15 minutes of working together per day is enough. An older child can handle up to 30 minutes at a time. Help your child succeed. Don't compare your child to anyone else, not even their brothers or sisters. Be enthusiastic about the things he or she has learned to do independently. Encourage him or her to develop more self-help skills;

— know your child's learning style. Children learn in different ways. One way is not better than another. Your child's teacher can

assist you in determining your child's learning style. Good luck in school this year.

These tips were taken from the National Parent Teacher Association.

Tribe readies for health care reform

continued from page 1

health professionals and staff.

"We will have to explore ways to provide services that we do not now provide. Where will our health care professionals come from? Will we be able to provide them ourselves? Will we have to contract them out, or will we be contracted by other entities to provide health care? There are many questions to be considered."

As employers, the tribe must compare employee health insurance against the basic plan provisions. In addition, employers will be required to provide more than one option for health insurance. In most cases, Creek Nation employees now receive more than the basic plan requirements, Mouss said.

"One major difference under the president's plan is that insurance companies cannot deny coverage because of preexisting conditions, and there will be no probationary period before coverage begins," Mouss said.

If adopted, the president's plan would guarantee comprehensive health coverage for all

Americans regardless of health or employment status, and all Americans will have more than one health care plan to choose from.

For example, under this proposed low cost-sharing plan, patients would be charged a \$10 payment for outpatient services from plan providers. Patients choosing the higher cost-sharing plan could choose their own provider, but services would be charged the standard 20 percent coinsurance. As the plan is presently, Indians who choose to stay with IHS as their provider will not be charged copayments, Mouss said.

He said the proposed higher cost-sharing plan seems to be comparable to health insurance now provided by the Creek Nation health care system.

"At this point, no legislation has been drafted, so we are still in the talking stages. But one thing is certain: under the proposed plan all Creeks will become health care consumers, and we will be making a consumer's choice about who will provide our health care services," Mouss said.

Muscogee Council Election '93

Candidates' roster by districts

Creek District

Seat A

Patricia Curry
Delbert Dunn
Curtis Simmers
Earl Wheeler, incumbent

Seat B

Roy Bear, incumbent
Leah Jack

Seat C

seat vacated
David Cloud

Soloman Hill

Terry Lunsford

Phyllis Warrington

Seat D

Mose Cahwee, incumbent
Duke Harjo

Hughes-Seminole District

Seat A

Cora Beaver
Johnson Buck
Dwayne Lowe, incumbent

Seat B

Robert Buck

Tim Fife

L.C. Franks, incumbent

Hattie Harjo

Martha Long

Seat C

Darrell Coachman, unopposed incumbent

Seat D - new seat

Norean Tiger
Thomas Yahola

McIntosh District

Seat A

Tommy Newton, unopposed incumbent

Seat B

Wilson Bear, incumbent

Wilbur Gouge

Seat C

Acee Buckner

Abelo Fields

Sandy McIntosh, incumbent

Seat D

Tom Pickering, incumbent

Yahola Townsend

Seat E - new seat

Frank Kamp

Jimmie Jones

Thomas McIntosh

George Thompson

Muskogee District

Seat A

Helen Chupco, incumbent

Rosalie Tiger

Seat B

Charlie Coker, incumbent

Malissa Napier

Seat C - new seat

Jerry Downum

Ruth King

Frances Pease

Okfuskee District

Seat A

Toney Hill

Hepsey Mae Jackson, incumbent

Nancy Watson

Tommie Yahola

Seat B

Eugene Birdcreek, incumbent

Bruce Smith

Seat C

Clyde Johnson, incumbent

Tony Martin

Seat D

Wynema Roberts, incumbent

Billy Williams

Okmulgee District

Seat A

Harvey Gilroy, incumbent

Felix Haynes

David Lewis

Seat B

Thomas Berryhill, incumbent

Anderson Hale

Eugenia Kelly

Seat C

Charlie Litsey, incumbent

Emanuel Morgan

Rex Watson

Seat D

Jim B. Harjo, incumbent

Fred Jones

Seat E

David Nichols

July Tecumseh

George Tiger, incumbent

Bobby Williams

Seat F

A.D. Ellis, incumbent

Donald Washington

Seat G - new seat

Charlotte Anderson

Dan Burgess

Robert Jones

Peggy Lyda

Karen Mackey

Tulsa District

Seat A

Larry Bible, unopposed incumbent

Seat B

Irene Cleghorn, incumbent

Stanley McGilbray

Carol Morris

Seat C

vacated

Edwin Moore

Velva Stout

Toske Willits

Seat D

Bim Bruner, unopposed incumbent

Seat E

Darrell Chissoe

Jesse Kelley

Loretta Kelly, incumbent

Seat F

Earl King

Okema Randall, incumbent

Richard Wilde

Seat G - new seat

Robert Beaver

Marsha Fannings

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

Seat A

Marie Crittenden

Richard Berryhill, incumbent

Seat B

seat vacated

Patrica Campbell

Barbara Gillispie

Harry Perryman



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November 1993, 12 Pages

Muscogee Council Election '93

Voters narrow field to 22; irregularities cited in Okfuskee race

OKMULGEE — Twenty-five of the 36 Muscogee (Creek) National Council seats have been filled as a result of the Oct. 23 primary.

Election officials described the turnout as moderate. The largest field of candidates (95) was expected to draw a larger turnout.

One Okfuskee District race was declared a draw after the count ended in a tie. Incumbent Judy Roberts and candidate Billy Williams each received 193 votes.

The election board decided to accept the petitions filed by Roberts and Williams at an Oct. 28 meeting. The matter now rests with tribal district court where both candidates have filed for an evidentiary hearing.

Roberts contends she is the winner after unofficial results gave her a slight edge in votes. When the actual ballot counting was finished in the early morning of Oct. 24, the race for Okfuskee District Seat D was declared a tie between her and Williams.

No date for a hearing had been set at press time. Of the 24 incumbents seeking re-election:

- 10 were victorious;
- eight were defeated;
- five remain in run-offs; and
- one race is being contested.

Results from the Oct. 23 primary begin on page 5.

The following lists those who will take the oath of office in January.

Creek District

- Leah Jack, Seat B
- Duke Harjo, Seat D

Hughes District

- Dwayne Lowe, Seat A
- Darrell Coachman, Seat C
- Thomas Yahola, Seat D

McIntosh District

- Tommy Newton, Seat A
- Wilbur Gouge, Seat B
- Sandy McIntosh, Seat C
- Yahola Townsend, Seat D

Muskogee District

- Helen Chupco, Seat A
- Charlie Coker, Seat B

Okfuskee District

- Bruce Smith, Seat B
- Clyde Johnson, Seat C

please see RESULTS..., page 12

Tribal administration reveals new master building plan for capitol complex

reprinted from Okmulgee Daily Times

OKMULGEE — Visions of the future, while maintaining the culture and tradition of the past, are featured in the proposed master site plan for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Capital Complex.

Principal Chief Bill Fife is revealing the proposed plan to introduce tribal officials, citizens, and the general public, to the proposed site plan.

"We have updated the master plan utilizing the 70 acres we have at the present time at the complex site," Fife said. "We have been in discussion with Council members, staff, and architects in developing the master plan."

Fife said the plan was based on the future population growth and demand for governmental services and personnel. New construction will cost approximately \$6 million. When the entire project is complete, it will have an estimated value around \$11 million," Fife said.

"This is considered to be part of the economic development program of the tribe and for the surrounding communities," he said. "Major construction activity creates jobs, generates revenue for goods and services, thus [it] impacts the local economy from an economic standpoint.

"You can expect to see major changes at the complex in two or three years. We want to make this a showplace for our citizens and the general public. We want to make the Muscogee people and our community friends proud of the Muscogee Nation government."

In an attempt to display the front portion of the tribal complex as the official capital of the tribe, the long range plan depicts separate buildings for the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. Included in this section of the master plan are governmental centers to house

the independent executive agencies, the office of treasury, and the department of justice.

The tribal independent agencies (mound) building is being renamed "The Capitol Mound Building." The master plan also provides for a memorial area in the northwest section which will accommodate the "National Stickball Field."

Plans in the memorial area indicate a "message center" to be erected also. An electronic message board is to display tribal community announcements which is to be legible from U.S. Highway 75.

In the center of the site plan are buildings for program, health, and realty services. A \$700,000 grant has been approved for the construction of a multi-purpose facility. It will house education, elderly nutrition, library, and wellness program services. The building is expected to be at the final construction phase by summer 1994.

"We want to create a working service environment that will be conducive to serving our citizens. With this plan there is a logical order in which service agencies are made accessible to the people in one central location," Fife said.

The Creek Nation Housing Authority is also expected to receive funding to build an administrative, management, and special programs office.

"In the early 1970s the first preliminary plans were developed for the complex site. At that time all we had was a piece of land and we were just getting our tribal government reactivated," said tribal executive director Jerry Wilson. "The Creek Nation existed socially prior to the 1970s, but today and for years in the future, the Creek Nation

please see PLAN..., page 12

Tribe to receive Administration for Native Americans grant funds for manufacturing plant

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will receive a \$143,990 grant from the Administration for Native Americans to fund an economic development project that could employ 10 to 15 people.

The tribe will use the money to develop a small manufacturing plant specializing in machine shop work, assembly line processes, and fabrication.

"This project will create jobs for tribal members," said Principal Chief Bill Fife. "It will also diversify the tribal economy and produce revenue."

The enterprise will be developed in three phases: incubation; technical training; and production.

"Through this process we will develop our work force, establish operating systems, [and] complete [the] planning process with the final product of an enterprise capable of

competing in any market," said executive director Jerry Wilson.

Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee will play a key role in the project by providing training and research to begin the manufacturing plant. The Creek Nation Job Training Partnership Act Program will recruit trainees for the program. Extensive curriculum at OSU-Okmulgee will provide work force training.

"We are very excited about the potential that exists between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and our institution to establish a small manufacturing enterprise," said OSU Okmulgee Provost Bob Klabenes.

With the ANA grant, the tribe has cumulated over \$1 million in grant awards this year, Wilson said. He also credited James King with developing the proposal concept.

Letters to the editor

Citizen thanks Council for support

Editor:

I went on a missionary trip with the Assembly of God Ambassadors in Mission Program in July. Our destination was Tyumen, Siberia. While in Tyumen our missionary team of 57 teenagers and adults held crusades in the city and ministered in a camp for children. Previously, the Russian government utilized this camp to indoctrinate the children to communism.

My trip to Russia was very rewarding and was a very humbling experience. I would like to thank the Creek National Council for their support — as we were responsible for trip funding. It is greatly appreciated.

Jolinda Chastain, Wetumka

Land company searches for heirs

Editor:

Osage Land Company is trying to locate the following Creeks:

- Lizzie Taylor, roll number 7607, or her heirs; and
- Nicey Jacob Chupcogee, newborn roll number 1264.

They may contact John M. Zeiders at: P.O. Box 770283, Oklahoma City, OK 73177 or call 1 (800) 330-8274.

John M. Zeiders, Oklahoma City

Citizen searches for grandmother's identity

Editor:

In order to determine me and my children's accurate blood quantums, I am searching for the identity of my maternal grandmother. My maternal grandfather is Simpson Tiger. My mother is Fannie Tiger Proctor — both from the Henryetta area.

If anyone has information regarding my maternal grandmother, please contact me at: (918) 426-5707 or (918) 423-2269.

Thank you.

Yannah Schrum, McAlester

Citizen establishes preservation association

Editor:

I am establishing the Muscogee Cultural Preservation Association to research, document, and preserve, the Muscogee culture, language, and history.

This association will also act as an educator by disseminating information to our own people and the general public in order to promote better understanding of the races.

The establishment of a tribal archive system to document and preserve Muscogee tribal life in the past, present, and future is also one of the goals of this association, and it will pursue funding to establish a Muscogee tribal resource center-museum to house these archives.

Virtually every aspect of the Muscogee culture will be researched and documented for preservation, such as: food; music and dance; sports, recreation; art and design; traditional dress; crafts; medicine; language, pre-removal history, etc. with the end result being the preservation of our culture through contemporary methods such as video, audio, and computers — all produced by Muscogee people.

If there are any questions I can answer about my ideas, just let me know and I'd be glad to help.

Vern Courtwright, Checotah

Council representative commends lighthorse

Editor:

A note of appreciation and thanks to the Creek Nation please see LETTERS..., page 11

Campaign gratitude

Editor:

I want to express my sincere appreciation to the Creek citizens of the Muskogee District for their support in the election for Council representative. As a newly-elected Councilman, I shall do my utmost to help legislate those bills which will truly benefit our Creek people. Again, many to the Muskogee District Creek voters who supported me.

Charlie Coker, Haskell

Editor:

I would like to thank all Creek District ceremonial ground, church, community, and tribal members that offered me their support in the recent National Council election for Creek District Seat A. I will continue to be an advocate for continual improvement of tribal programs and services such as: health care; education; and cultural preservation.

Again, thanks.

Earl Wheeler, Bristow

Editor's note: Wheeler faces Patricia Curry in the Dec. 4 general election.

Editor:

I want to thank publicly all of the supporters who voted for me in the recent tribal election for Hughes District Representative. I will commit myself to work and maintain your support and confidence.

Myto.

Thomas Yahola, Wetumka

Editor:

I wish to express my thanks to the number of people that supported and encouraged me to run for Tulsa District Representative in the recent election. I consider my victory a team effort and I will work as hard for you as you did for me.

Thank you.

Jess Kelley, Tulsa

Editor:

I would like to thank the large number of voters that supported me on Oct. 23. I appreciate your loyalty and confidence. I will continue to be your supporter and your voting representative.

Charlie Litsey, Okmulgee

Second Chief Crow supports drug education and awareness efforts

by Shelly Crow, Second Chief

Recently, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation concluded its Red Ribbon Week observance. This is the first time that the tribe took the initiative and had its own program for drug awareness in conjunction with state activities.

Hundreds of children in schools across the Creek Nation submitted artwork for the poster contest as well as wrote essays.

As a mother, nurse, and educator, I know firsthand the importance of creating awareness and then educating our youth to the dangers and consequences of drug abuse and misuse.

That so many children (and their parents and guardians) got involved with this Red Ribbon Week project, gives cause for hope that they can enjoy their childhood without the devastation caused directly and indirectly by drugs...

November promises to be another busy month.

In addition to the regular routine and not so routine functions of the Second Chief's office, November 11 is Veterans Day.

Aside from all tribal offices being closed in observance of the Muscogee veterans who have served America and the Creek Nation in the armed forces, I am expressing

LEGAL NOTICE

In the matter regarding Jacob L. Barton, this notice by publication is to Cecil Christopher Barton, father of Jacob L. Barton. You are hereby notified that a termination hearing as to the above named child has been set in the above styled and numbered cause for 1:30 p.m. on the 15th day of November, 1993, before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore, District Judge, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at which time you are directed to appear on said date.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to **The Muscogee Nation News**, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in **The Muscogee Nation News**, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of **The Muscogee Nation News**, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

Jim Wolfe, managing editor

Stephanie Berryhill, senior staff writer

In brief

Tribe accepting bids on equipment

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of football equipment and repair machines Dec. 4 through 13.

The items that will be sold at 9 a.m., Dec. 18 are:

- Bifurcated and Tubular Rivet Company Limited., style 42R, machine number P11088;
- face masks, chin straps, and helmet equipment;
- Duritan Manufacturing Company, Barbours synthetic repair thread stitch machine;
- KME Company, severity index computer, serial number 229;
- two Troy laundry machines; and
- one spin dryer.

All items will be sold as one unit. To prohibit bid rejection, the highest bidder must pay the balance in full at the time the bid is made. No warranty is given or implied. The Creek Nation reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Items may be inspected from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Dec. 3 at the Creek Nation Tribal Capitol Complex General Services Administration Warehouse. The complex is located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Lighthorse available on weekends

OKMULGEE — The lighthorse administration is available after regular working hours and on weekends through the switchboard. To reach the lighthorse administration, call (918) 756-8700. At the recorded message, enter the number 444 and your call will be directed to the dispatcher on duty.

Green country vets MIA watchfire set

TULSA — Green Country Chapter #524 Vietnam Veterans of America will hold its fourth annual prisoner-of-war, missing-in-action watchfire Nov. 6 through 7. The watchfire will burn from 12 noon, Nov. 6 through 12 noon, Nov. 7 at Veterans Park, 18th Street and Boulder Avenue. There will be a flag retirement at this year's watchfire. Individuals having American flags that should be retired may bring them by the watchfire on Saturday. For more information, call Lee Keyes at (918) 836-6093.

Five tribes museum board to meet

MUSKOGEE — The Five Civilized Tribes Museum Board of Directors will hold a meeting at 10 a.m., Nov. 15. The museum is located on Agency Hill on Honor Heights Drive.

Indian elders sought for employment

TULSA — National Indian Council on Aging, Inc. is seeking unemployed American Indian elders for employment under its senior community service employment program.

The training program, subsidized by the Department of Labor, is authorized under Title V of the Older American Act. It is designed to assist eligible elders to enter into competitive employment after completion of the training program. Applicants must be 55 years of age or older and meet low income guidelines. Program benefits include: earned wages; personal and job-related counseling; and job training in the private sector; or in coordination with other federal employment and training programs.

For more information, contact job training specialist Ed Little Cook at: (918) 582-7964 or apply at the NICOA office at 130 N. Greenwood, Suite E.

Head Start expansion

The Okmulgee Head Start has expanded from one to three classrooms as total enrollment tripled. Head Start director Sherryl Gonseth wrote an expansion proposal that funded the new facility.

Pictured at right are Gonseth and center supervisor Barbara O'Neal (holding ribbon) with several parents and others attending the grand opening.



Tribal health system offering free influenza immunizations for various flu strains

OKMULGEE — Free influenza immunizations are available through Creek Nation Health facilities.

Influenza is a viral infection of the nose, throat, bronchial tubes, and lungs. Health officials emphasize immunization for the elderly and those with health problems which might become deadly with a flu infection.

"The viruses that cause flu frequently change, so people who have been infected or given a flu shot in the past may become infected with a new strain. Because of this, and because any immunity produced by the flu shot will possibly decrease in the year following vaccination, persons in the high-risk groups should be vaccinated every year," said division of health administration chief medical officer Cynthia M. Berry, D.O.

"This year's flu shot contains viruses representing the A/Texas, A/Beijing, and B/Panama strains, which are thought to be most likely to occur in the United States this winter," Berry said.

A single flu shot is needed each season for persons age nine or older; younger children may need a second shot after a month.

Berry said individuals are in a high risk group and should

get a flu shot if they:

- are 65 or older;
- have long-term heart or lung problems;
- have been treated recently for kidney disease, cystic fibrosis, chronic metabolic disease, or severe asthma;
- have a type of cancer or immunological disorder;
- are ages 6 months through 18 and are on long-term treatment with aspirin;
- are employed in a health care facility, nursing home, or provide care to high-risk persons either at home or in a facility.

Immunization is not for everyone, Berry said. Individuals should consult a doctor before taking the vaccine if they:

- are allergic to eggs;
- had a serious reaction to previous flu shots;
- have ever been paralyzed with Guillain-Barre syndrome;
- may be pregnant; or
- are ill and have fever.

For more information, call the Creek Nation Community Hospital at (918) 623-1424.

Housing authority to begin comprehensive rehabilitation grant program on older homes

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Housing Authority has begun its rehabilitation grant program, said Joe Jackson, housing authority executive director.

"The program has begun work in several areas including 504 handicapped accessibility projects," Jackson said. "Those homes that are the oldest by project are scheduled for the first and second years. If a home was assessed and included in the plan, the homeowner will be contacted by us when their project comes due."

The grant program gives the housing authority the opportunity to correct problems in earlier constructed homes that have been identified for some time, Jackson said.

Jackson said the most important requirement for eligibility in the program is for homebuyers to be current with house payments.

"Those homebuyers with delinquent balances have been contacted to set up a payment plan so the work on their homes can be started as scheduled," Jackson said. "If a homebuyer is delinquent, we want them to contact us now

to clarify the matter.

"We do not want to pass over anyone when it comes time for work to begin on their homes."

Jackson said home maintenance and payments are the sole responsibility of the homeowner and the program is being administered by the housing authority.

"We want to stress that this is a housing authority program and not funded by the tribe," Jackson said. "If there are questions or concerns, people should contact the housing authority comprehensive grant office."

"The assistance from the tribe we received in the initial application process is appreciated. Without their assistance we would have been hard-pressed to even be considered for funding," Jackson said. He also recognized the housing authority board of commissioners for leadership and direction.

"We are moving ahead and making progress."

For more information, contact Geri Berryhill or Eugene Thomas at: (918) 756-8504 or toll-free, 1 (800) 259-5050.

Muscogees in service

NORMAN — Charles Wayne Barber has been commissioned into the U.S. Navy as an ensign. Barber is the son of Alfie and Linda Barber of Dustin. He is the grandson of Charles and Lillie Mae Masengale and the great-grandson of the late Lena Gordon and Alice Masengale of Dustin. Barber will be stationed at Pensacola, Fla. where he will attend flight school.



Education briefs

Tribal adult education class graduates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Adult Education Program manager Cheryl Bear reported 24 students successfully completed its program during fiscal year 1993.

Most of the students plan to further their education by attending a vocational school or attending college, Bear said.

For more information regarding the program, call Bear at (918) 758-0849.

Impact aid workshop held in Checotah, OkC

CHECOTAH — An impact aid workshop regarding Public Law 81-874 will be held from 1 to 3 p.m., Nov. 16 at the Checotah High School Auditorium.

School districts receive \$250 million annually from the federal government in impact aid for teaching Indian students. School districts may spend the money as they deem necessary, but Congress has mandated that the districts must consult with the tribes each year to show that tribal education needs are being met.

Featured speakers are Tom Burns of the Indian Technical Assistance Center and Dorthea Perkins of the U.S. Department of Education Impact Aid Program. All tribal leaders, education directors, Johnson-O'Malley program directors, Title V coordinators, parents of Indian children, and Indian communities leaders are encouraged to attend.

Another impact aid workshop is scheduled in Oklahoma City from 1 to 3 p.m., Nov. 17 at the Oklahoma City Public School Administration Building, 900 N. Cline. For more information, contact Burns at: 1 (800) 422-0966.

Scholarships for Indian students available

BOULDER, Colo. — Applications for the Dr. Rosa Minoka Hill Fund, established for Indian students to attend private, college preparatory, secondary schools are available.

Applications are being accepted from September through December for the 1994 school year. Interested students should apply during their eighth, ninth, or tenth grade years.

For more information, write the Dr. Rosa Minoka Hill Fund at: 1630 30th St., Suite 309, Boulder, Colo. 80301-1000 or call (303) 492-3108, 494-9476.

Arizona offers Indian professional training

TUSCON, Ariz. — The University of Arizona offers the American Indian Professional Training Program (AIT) in speech-language pathology and audiology. The program provides financial, academic, and socio-emotional support for Indian students. Applications for 1994-95 are being accepted. For more information, contact AIT at: (602) 621-1969.

Muscogee (Creek) student achievements

Lena Marshall

OKLAHOMA CITY — Creek educator Lena Wind Marshall was one of seven graduates of the Oklahoma City University American Indian Teacher Training Program.

Marshall graduated from the gifted education master's program in July.

Marshall is married to Seminole Nation Communications Director Famous Marshall. They have two children, Famous Jr. and Sunnie, both students at Seminole Junior College. Marshall and her family have lived in Okemah for 11 years. She is the daughter of the late Rev. James and Barbara Wind, Okemah.



John Petherick

TALEQUAH — Creek-Cherokee Northeastern State University Soccer Team goalkeeper John Petherick had 56 saves last season, which is the second highest record in a single season at NSU.

"He's a big-time play maker," said assistant coach Brian Elliott.

He was an All-State goalkeeper at East Central High School, Tulsa, and was recruited and reported to NSU as a defender.

He lettered four years in soccer, and two years in football and wrestling.

A president's honor roll junior at NSU, he is a business administration major and plans to enter a career in hospital administration.

Petherick is the son of John and Emily Coker Petherick; he is the maternal grandson of Thomas and Olivene Coker and paternal grandson of Joyce Petherick, all of Tulsa.

Travis Screechowl

SAPULPA — Travis Screechowl received first place honors in ten categories in photography at the 1993 Creek County Fair. His photo of his neice and her collection of bears entitled "Friendship is a Bear" placed first in the Eastman Kodak National Photo Exhibit as well.

In all Screechowl had 14 blue ribbon exhibits at the Tulsa State Fair.

He is the son of Ed and Janice Screechowl of Sapulpa.



Folk arts apprentice applications accepted

OKLAHOMA CITY — Applications are being accepted for the folk arts apprenticeship program. The program is sponsored by the State Arts Council of Oklahoma with support from the National Endowment for the Arts. This program is designed to encourage recognized master artists to work one-on-one with an apprentice in order to pass on community-based skills and is targeted at Indian communities. For applications or more information, contact Dayna Lee, at: (405) 521-2931 or write State Arts Council, Room 640, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Applications for 1994 funding must be submitted by Dec. 17.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation birthdays

J.T. Barnett

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. — J.T. Barnett celebrated his second birthday Aug. 22. He is the son of Steven and Dode Barnett. His paternal grandparents are Darlene and the late Tim Barnett of Springfield. His maternal grandmother is Phyllis Warrington of Sapulpa. Maternal great-grandparents are Lizzie and the late George Bruner of Holdenville. Barnett is of the Bird Clan. Tribal affiliations are Creek, Seminole, Seneca, and Menominee.



Zachary Ryan Tiger

ADA — Zachary Ryan Tiger was born Oct. 11 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital to Joe and Shawna Tiger. Tiger weighed 9 pounds, 2.5 ounces and was 21 inches long at birth. He has one brother, Jason and one sister, Courtney.

Maternal grandparents are Carolyn Cosar of Holdenville and John Cosar of Mannford. Maternal great-grandparents are Mae Venable and Mabel McGee, both of Holdenville.

Paternal grandparents are Joseph S. and Betty Tiger of Holdenville. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Edmond and Nupsey Dunson of Holdenville and the late Turner and Annie Tiger of Okemah.

Community news

Eufaula Indian Community

EUFALIA — Eufaula Indian Community has completed two fencing projects and awaits a third. The community has contracted the projects from the tribe through its administration of a natural resources contract. The community has been fencing restricted trust property in the McIntosh District area.

Koweta Indian Community

KOWETA — Koweta Indian Community has elected officers for 1993-94. They are: John T. McIntosh, president; Eloweda Tiger, vice-president; Josephine Deere, secretary; DeLoris Johnson, treasurer; and Harry Perryman, sergeant-at-arms. Tiger also reported that Lena Sample has returned from the hospital after a September admission and that Gloria Ware visited her sister in Washington D.C.

Kellyville Indian Community

KELLYVILLE — The community reported that a successful celebration to observe the signing of a new community constitution and by-laws was held. Tribal officials present included Principal Chief Bill Fife, Creek District Rep. Earl Wheeler and community planners Steve Landsberry and Ken Tiger. Community calendar listings: 2 - 6 p.m. Nov. 20, Thanksgiving dinner; 1 - 6 p.m., Dec. 18, Christmas dinner; and Jan. 1, New Year's powwow.

Paden Indian Community

PADEN — The Paden Indian Community met Nov. 4. For more information, contact Linda Allen at: P.O. Box 245, Paden, OK 74850.

Creek District

Seat A
Run-off
Earl Wheeler
(incumbent)
Total — 183

vs.

Patricia Curry
Total — 101

Others
Curtis Simmers
Total — 76

Delbert Dunn
Total — 37



Wheeler



Curry

Creek District

Seat B
Winner
Leah Jack
Total — 219

defeated

Roy Bear (incum-
bent)
Total — 174



Jack

Seat C
Run-off
Phyllis Warrington
Total — 174

vs.

David Cloud
Total — 95

Others
Solomon Hill
Total — 92

Terry Lunsford
Total — 38



Warrington

Creek District



Cloud



D. Harjo

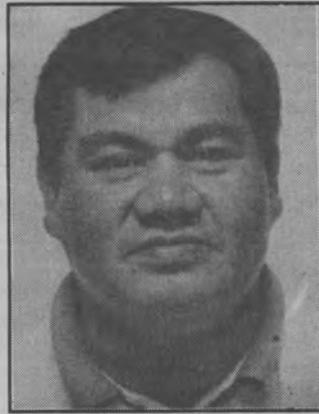
Hughes District

Seat A
Winner
Dwayne Lowe
(incumbent)
Total — 275

defeated

Johnson Buck
Total — 136

Cora Beaver
Total — 134



Lowe

Seat B
Run-off
Timmie Fife
Total — 181

vs.

Martha Long
Total — 130

Others
L.C. Franks (in-
cumbent)
Total — 113



Fife

Hughes District

Hattie Harjo
Total — 20



Long

Seat C
Darrell Coachman
(unopposed incum-
bent)



Coachman

Hughes District

Seat D
Winner
Thomas Yahola
Total — 362

defeated

Norean Tiger
Total — 176



T. Yahola

McIntosh District

Seat A
Tommy Newton
(unopposed in-
cumbent)



Newton

Robert Buck
Total — 109

McIntosh District

Seat B
Winner
Wilbur Gouge
Total — 358

defeated

Wilson Bear (incumbent)
Total — 298

Seat C
Winner
Sandy McIntosh (incumbent)
Total — 347

defeated

Abelo Fields
Total — 171

Ace Buckner
Total — 143



Gouge

McIntosh District

Seat D
Winner
Yahola Townsend
Total — 364

defeated

Tommy Pickering (incumbent)
Total — 294



Townsend

McIntosh District

Others
Jimmie Jones
Total — 98

Frank Kamp
Total — 88



Thompson

Muskogee District

Seat A
Winner
Helen Chupco (incumbent)
Total — 139

defeated

Rita Tiger
Total — 100



Chupco

Muskogee District

Seat B
Winner
Charlie Coker (incumbent)
Total — 119

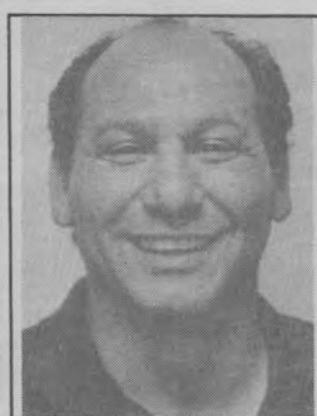
defeated

Malissa Napier
Total — 111



Coker

Muskogee District



Downum

Okfuskee District

Others
Nancy Watson
Total — 100

Toney Hill
Total — 53



T.J. Yahola

Seat C
Run-off
Frances Pease
Total — 111

vs.

Jerry Downum
Total — 88

Others
Ruth King
Total — 30



Pease

Okfuskee District

Seat A
Run-off
Mae Jackson (incumbent)
Total — 130

vs.

Tommie Joe Yahola
Total — 103



Jackson

Seat B
Winner
Bruce Smith
Total — 240

defeated

Eugene Birdcreek (incumbent)
Total — 145



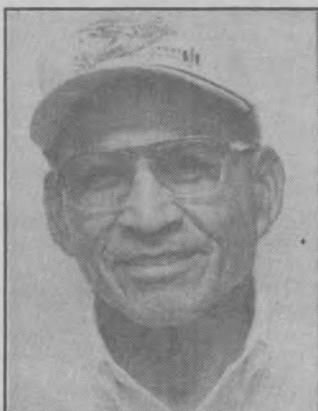
Smith

Okfuskee District

Seat C
Winner
Clyde Johnson
(incumbent)
Total — 268

defeated

Tony Martin
Total — 118



Johnson

Seat D*
Run-off
Wynema Roberts
(incumbent)
Total — 193

vs.

Billy Williams
Total — 193



Roberts

*Primary election ended in a tie. The race is being contested.

Okfuskee District

Williams

Okmulgee District

Seat A
Run-off
David Lewis
Total — 279

vs.

Harvey Gilroy (incumbent)
Total — 252

Others
Felix Haynes
Total — 231



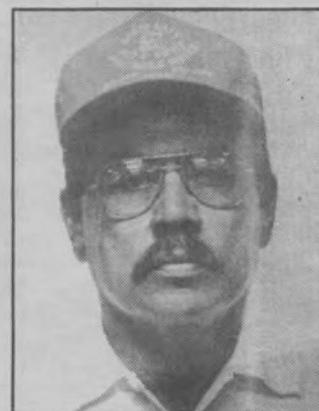
Lewis

Okmulgee District

Seat B
Run-off
Thomas Berryhill
(incumbent)
Total — 334

vs.

Anderson Hale
Total — 213



Gilroy



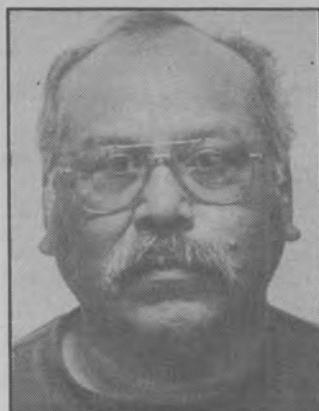
Berryhill

Okmulgee District**Okmulgee District**

Seat D
Winner
Jim Harjo (incumbent)
Total — 394

defeated

Fred Jones
Total — 351



J. Harjo

Okmulgee District

Others
July Tecumseh
Total — 134

Bobby Williams
Total — 98



Nichols

Seat C
Winner
Charlie Litsey
(incumbent)
Total — 429

defeated

Emanuel Morgan
Total — 207

Rex Watson
Total — 127



Litsey

Seat E
Run-off
George Tiger (incumbent)
Total — 334

vs.

David Nichols
Total — 195

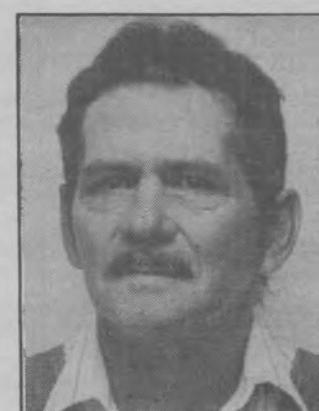


Tiger

Seat F
Winner
A.D. Ellis (incumbent)
Total — 544

defeated

Don Washington
Total — 206



Ellis

Omulgee District

Seat G
Run-off
Charlotte Anderson
Total — 166

vs.

Peggy Lyda
Total — 159

Others
Dan Burgess
Total — 156

Karen Mackey
Total — 140

Robert Jones
Total — 139



Anderson



Lyda

Tulsa District

Seat A
Larry Bible
(unopposed incumbent)



Bible

Seat B
Winner
Irene Cleghorn
(incumbent)
Total — 278

defeated

Carol Morris
Total — 167

Stanley McGilbray
Total — 79



Cleghorn

Tulsa District

Seat C
Run-off
Edwin Moore
Total — 185

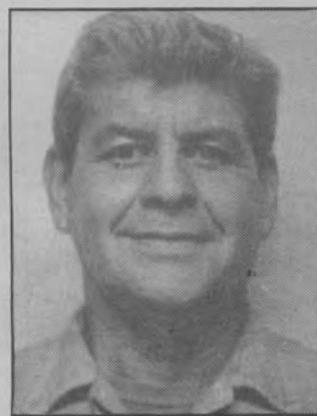
vs.

Toske Willits
Total — 236

Other
Velva Stout
Total — 102



Moore



Willits

Tulsa District

Seat D
Stephen Bruner
(unopposed incumbent)



Bruner

Tulsa District

Seat F
Winner
Earl King
Total — 284

defeated

Okemah Randall
(incumbent)
Total — 121

Rick Wilde
Total — 120



King

Seat G
Winner
Perry Beaver
Total — 382

defeated

Marsha Fannings
Total — 138



Beaver

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes

Seat A
Winner
Mike Berryhill
(incumbent)
Total — 104

defeated

Marie Crittenden
Total — 78



M. Berryhill

Seat B
Winner
Barbara Gillespie
Total — 109

defeated

Pat Campbell
Total — 54

Harry Perryman
Total — 26



Gillespie

Seat E
Winner
Jess Kelley
Total — 313

defeated

Pat Kelly (incumbent)
Total — 148

Darrell Chissoe
Total — 69



Kelley

Tribal births and birthdays

Karissa Malynn Berryhill

BEGGS — Karissa Malynn Berryhill celebrated her first birthday recently. She was born Oct. 20, 1992 to Michael and Kara Berryhill of Beggs.

Attending the party was paternal great-grandfather Thomas Berryhill Sr. of Wilson community, maternal great-grandparents Roy and Eula Swanson of Beggs, and many other relatives.

Grandparents are Wendell and Deanna Crook; her great-grandmother is Lillie Crook, all of Beggs.

Paternal grandparents are Jean Wilson of Eudora, Kan., and Thomas Berryhill Jr. of Duck Creek. Great-grandparents are Elizabeth Porter of Okmulgee and the late Benjamin Wacoche and the late Blanche Berryhill. She is the daughter of the Wotko Clan and Tuckabatchee Tribal Town.

Ami Rae Hotkey Murphy

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Ami Rae Hotkey Murphy was born April 15 to Thomas and Mary Murphy at Air University Regional Hospital, Maxwell Air Force Base. She weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20 and one-half inches long.

Her maternal grandparents are Joseph S. and Betty Tiger of Holdenville. Her maternal great-grandparents are the late Edmond and Nupsey Dunson, Holdenville, and the late Turner and Annie Tiger, Okemah. Paternal grandparents are Edward D. Murphy, Lebanon, Ore. and Alma Murphy, Albany, Ore. Paternal great-grandparents are Jane and the late Eugene Murphy, Brownsville, Ore. and the late Gilford and Christine Holifield, Toledo, Ore.

Zachary Roberts

OKMULGEE — Zachary Elias Roberts was born to Danny and Janell Roberts of Morris on Oct. 1.

He weighed 5 pounds, 5 ounces and was 17 and three-quarters inches in length. His grandparents are: Stanley Roberts of Okmulgee; Irene Morgan of Beggs; and William and Ellene McLaughlin of Morris. Great-grandparents are W.E. and Dessie Tollette of Liberty Mounds and Letha Young of Bixby.

Evan Colin Tansey

TULSA — Evan Colin Tansey was born June 15 to Mark and Lula Tansey of Tulsa. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces at birth. Grandparents are Judy and the late Andy Proctor of Hanna, and Donna and Richard Tansey of Kokomo, Ind.

Asheley Ann Rich

DAVISON, Mich. — Asheley Ann Rich celebrated her second birthday Nov. 2. Parents are Craig and Whitney Dagenet Rich of Davison. Grandparents are: Robert and Georgine Dagenet of Morris; Don and Rosemary Rich of Davison; and Milam and Nancy Korica of Las Vegas.



Newtown couple observes 59th anniversary

OKMULGEE — Although Roosevelt Deerisaw has been married over one-half of a century, he still remembers the little pigtailed, red-headed girl who used to run around the grounds of Newtown Church.

Both Roosevelt and Cora Bell Deerisaw have changed over the past 70 years, but it is their ability to work together that has kept their union solid for the past 59 years.

"It's just like a [horse] team you know. If one pulls [its] load and the other pulls [its] load — they work together. You have to keep pushing and keep pushing — one horse keeps up with the other horse."

A former member of Tallahassee Methodist Church, young Roosevelt would often visit Newtown Methodist Church with his family, thus he and lifelong Newtown member Cora grew up knowing each other. After a year of courting, Roosevelt casually mentioned that he'd like to marry. "He said he wanted to get married, so I told him to ask my mother. But I think it's more like he talked her into it," Cora laughs. The couple were wed by Rev. Martin Checote in his home, east of Okmulgee, on Oct. 26, 1934.

Although the Okmulgee couple never had children, they



The Deerisaws

have "raised enough kids to call them our own," Roosevelt said. The Deerisaw's believe the high incidence of divorce is largely because of a lack of perseverance among couples.

"Seems like young people have a disagreement and don't want to work it through," she said. "You (men) got to learn how to pull your part; she's got to learn how to pull her part and that's how you stay together, see. You got to learn to understand each other," he said.

In brief

Citizen named mother of the year

TULSA — Tribal citizen Okema Randall was named Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women mother of the year recently.

Randall, Muscogee National Council Tulsa District Representative, was presented with a plaque at a federation awards luncheon in October.

**Student wins music award**

STILLWATER — Thlophlocco Tribal Town member Suzanne M. Langan recently received a district winner award in the National Piano Playing Auditions.

She is an 8-year piano student and is taught by Jency Dennis of Stillwater. Langan is a student of ballet, jazz, tap dance, and karate. Langan is an honor student, a student council representative, and track team member. She worked as a volunteer at the Stillwater Medical Center last summer. Langan is the daughter of Barry and Julia Langan of Stillwater. She is the maternal granddaughter of Nora Cheek and the great-granddaughter of Susie E. Foster, both of Okemah.

**Citizen observes 83rd birthday**

EUFALIA — Creek tribal member Dean Deere celebrated his eighty-third birthday Aug. 21 at the home of Larry and Debbie Deere. A cookout was held with 40 of Deere's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and friends in attendance. Deere said he had a very enjoyable birthday and thanked all who attended. Deere is a resident at the Oklahoma Veterans Center in Claremore.

Citizen named to Interior position

WASHINGTON — Creek tribal member Michael J. Anderson, formerly executive director of the National Congress of American Indians, has been named Department of the Interior Associate Solicitor for Indian Affairs.

Anderson heads a division within the department's solicitor's office where he oversees the work of 17 providing legal service to the secretary and assistant secretary of Indian affairs and their staff on Indian issues.

As executive director of NCAI, Anderson managed the headquarters of the nation's oldest and largest advocacy organization for American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments.

Anderson was an attorney with law firms in Denver and Washington, D.C. from 1984 through 1992. In 1989, he took leave from private practice to serve as general counsel of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, Special Committee on Investigation. In 1992, Anderson cofounded the Native Americans for Clinton-Gore, a national alliance of American Indians who supported the candidacy of President Bill Clinton.

Anderson holds a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Oklahoma and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

Citizen recognized for war efforts

WASHINGTON — In honor of the fiftieth anniversary commemoration of World War II, Eufaula citizen Jerlena Douglas King was recently recognized for her commitment to war time service on the home front.

King began working for the Selective Service Local Board #46 in 1941 in Eufaula. Of the 10 million Americans who served in uniform between 1940 and 1945, King was among two-thirds that entered the Selective Service System.

King received a personal letter of appreciation from the president, a commemorative poster, a certificate of appreciation, and an agency label pin.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

BENJAMIN BERRYHILL

OKMULGEE — Funeral services were held for Creek citizen Benjamin Berryhill Sept. 28 at Newtown United Methodist Church.

Berryhill died Sept. 24 in Oklahoma City. He was born in Okmulgee on Feb. 26, 1914 to Harrison and Celia Berryhill.

He was a World War II veteran, a retired painter, and member of Newtown United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by: two sons, Ronald and Cecil Berryhill; two brothers; and two sisters.

Survivors include: sons, Harrison Berryhill of Midwest City, Bruce Berryhill of Henryetta, and Wayne Berryhill of Tulsa; daughters, Celia Rizzo of Midwest City, Deborah Bean of Okmulgee, Regena Weatherly of Tulsa, Cynthia Haslett of Muskogee, and Wanda Mills of Morris; brother, Aaron Berryhill of Okmulgee; sisters, Hepsey Raye of Missouri, and Elsie Douglas of California; 27 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Interment was at the Berryhill Family Cemetery.

ANNIE WIND BERRYHILL

OKEMAH — Funeral services were held for Annie Wind Berryhill at High Springs Baptist Church on Oct. 23.

Rev. George Doyle officiated; assisting was Rev. Felix Tiger.

She died Oct. 20 at Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah. She was born Feb. 3, 1913 in Okfuskee County to George and Millie Burris Wind. She lived in Okfuskee County all of her life; she was a homemaker and member of High Springs.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Anderson Berryhill, in 1984.

Survivors include: sons, Kenneth and Ed Berryhill, both of Okemah; daughter, Jovonna Robison of Okmulgee; sisters, Virgie Jackson of Tulsa, Martha Berryhill of Sapulpa, and Nora Doyle of Coweta; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Interment was in the Berryhill Family Cemetery.

GEORGE BISHOP

OKMULGEE — Funeral services were held for lifetime Okmulgee resident George Bishop on Oct. 7.

Services were officiated by Rev. F.R. French at Kelly Funeral Home.

Bishop died Oct. 2. He was born May 25, 1911 to John William and Liza Bishop in Okmulgee.

Bishop had a long career as an independent oil producer. He entered into the industry as a roustabout at age 18 and worked until his health would not permit. He was employed with Phillips Petroleum, Okmulgee refinery, for 30 years and retired as a supervisor for OKC Refining Company. He married Bonnie Gross on July 20, 1930 in Okemah. His wife preceded him in death.

Survivors include: son, Larry G. Bishop of Jenks; daughters, Barbara Graham of Independence, La., Glenda Bishop of Okmulgee, and Dee J. Bishop of Cocoa, Fla.; 10 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-

grandchildren.

Interment was at Okmulgee Cemetery.

Pallbearers included: Perry Beaver; Homer Cooper; Tyler Brown; Jason Bishop; Terry Cooper; Bobby Harrelson; Howard Canada; and Brian Canada.

Memorials may be made to Dean A. McGee Eye Institute at: 608 Stanton L. Young Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73104.

KAREN LONG

OKMULGEE — Funeral services were held for Okmulgee resident Karen Long on Sept. 30 at Newtown United Methodist Church.

Rev. Greg Keith officiated, with Rev. Dave Long Jr. assisting. Long died Sept. 27 in Okmulgee. She was born in Holdenville on Aug. 31, 1952 to Thomas and Mattie Long.

She was an active member of Newtown United Methodist Church and was employed by the Creek Nation Housing Authority.

She was preceded in death by: one son, Bryan Beatty; and her mother.

Survivors include: son, Eric Beatty; her father; sisters, Vicki Watashe, Minnie Wolfe, Sidney Long, all of Okmulgee; Thomasine Long of Mounds, and Lou Ann Messer of Muskogee; brothers, Bobby Long of Okmulgee and Guy Long of Tulsa; seven nephews; and four nieces.

Interment was in the Newtown Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Gary Calip; Johnny Whitfield; Ronnie Warrior; Michael Tiger; Joe Tiger Jr.; and Bill Dowdy.

SARAH COKER HICKS

MASON — Funeral services were held for Sarah Coker Hicks Oct. 9 at Buckeye Creek Baptist Church.

Officiating the service was Rev. George Doyle.

She died Oct. 6 at Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah.

Hicks was born Feb. 19, 1901 at Boley to Charlie and Hettie Coker.

On April 11, 1921 she married Cheparney Afanokee Hicks; together they had 12 children.

Hicks was baptized April 23, 1953. She was a women's leader at Buckeye and was also church treasurer.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband; and sons, Billy Hicks, Edward Hicks, and Jesse Hicks.

She is survived by: daughters, Louise Burgess of Welty, Maggie Hill, and Joann Powell, both of Bristow; sons, Wilson Hicks, Banson Hicks, and Hanson Hicks, all of Okemah.

She was also a foster parent to the following: Thomas Coker of Tulsa; Aggie Beaver of Wetumka; Johnnie Hicks of Wetumka; Terry Hicks, and Mary Walters, both of Okemah.

She is also survived by: 34 grandchildren; 65 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; several nieces; nephews; relatives; and friends.

Interment was at the family cemetery. Pallbearers were: Arthur Powell; Isaac Walters; Curtis Hicks; Oscar Hicks; Andy Hicks; and Andrew Harley.

AMOS TIGER

OKMULGEE — Graveside services were held for life-long Okmulgee area resident Amos Tiger at Okmulgee Cemetery on Sept. 27.

Rev. John Buckner officiated.

Tiger died Sept. 25 in Muskogee. He was born in Okmulgee on Dec. 30, 1911 to Alberd and Nicey Tiger.

He attended Newtown United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by: one son, Max Tiger; and one daughter, Mary Tiger Brown.

Survivors include: son, Tecumseh Tiger of Sand Springs; daughters, Delores Wall of Okmulgee, and Susie Sanders of Tahlequah; 10 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

JAMES SHIRLEY

DEKALB, Ill. — Funeral services for James Shirley of DeKalb were held in August. Shirley died Aug. 5. He was born Nov. 28, 1925 to Houston and Gracie Berryhill Shirley of Sapulpa. Shirley married Helen Wenderoth in 1972.

He was a Chinese history professor at Northern Illinois University for 32 years. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; a sister, Margaret Stapleton; and a son, Lawrence James Shirley.

Survivors include: his wife; daughters, Laura Kay Shirley of Minneapolis, Minn., Linda Marie Shirley of Queens, N.Y., and Lisa Elaine Shirley of Quebec, Canada; a son, Louis Shirley of DeKalb; stepdaughters, Susan Leigh Ryder of Minneapolis, and Julie Ann Ryder of DeKalb; a sister, Nellie Sue Edmisten; two brothers, Houston Shirley of Sapulpa, and Thomas Shirley of Austin, Texas; three grandchildren; and one stepgrandson.

Religion briefs

MSW executive board meeting

SEMINOLE — The executive board meeting for the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association will be at 10 a.m., Nov. 20 at Indian Nations Baptist Church in Seminole.

Bemo Baptist announces holiday schedule

BIXBY — Bemo Baptist Church will have its Thanksgiving service Nov. 21. The church's Christmas service and party will be Dec. 19 with gifts and candy for those attending. The church will also have a New Year's watch party Dec. 31. The church is located three-fourths of a mile west of 131st and Memorial and then south.

Seminole Hitchitee to hold gospel singing

LITTLE — Seminole Hitchitee United Methodist Church is holding a gospel singing on Nov. 13. Berryhill's Quartet will be the master of ceremonies. The church is located five miles east of Little on 99A and one-half of a mile north.

Big Cussetah Annual Harvest Dinner set

OKMULGEE — Big Cussetah United Methodist Church is having its annual fall harvest dinner from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 6. The all-you-can-eat dinner costs \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children 11 and under. The church is located three miles east of Okmulgee on state highway 62 and four miles south on Prairie Bell Road.

Sunrise Baptist all-day fundraiser set

OILTON — An all-day fundraiser and gospel singing will be Nov. 6 at Sunrise Baptist Church located one and a quarter miles north of the U.S. Highway 66 and 48 junction then west for two-tenths of a mile.

Gratitude

We would like to express our appreciation to all individuals that offered their compassion and support during the loss of our loved one. Special thanks is offered to Creek Nation, Rev. John Buckner, and Kelly Funeral Home.

The Amos Tiger family

We would like to say thank you for the food, flowers, prayers, and encouragement that was offered our family during the time of our sorrow.

Once again, we say mvt.

The Sarah Coker Hicks family

More letters to the editor

continued from page 2

lighthorse police. Recently they assisted in apprehending and sending to jail, a bogus check artist who was cashing checks on an elderly creek citizen in Okmulgee.

A reminder to all Creek citizens that in time of need or assistance, you should not hesitate to take advantage of our Indian police force. They are a modern and well-equipped force and are there for the Creek citizens.

A.D. Ellis, Twin Hills

Council member discusses travel expenses

Editor:

[In September] I went on a seminar for the first time since I became a National Council representative. I never really knew how much of our citizens' money was being spent on these trips. The seminar I attended was on Code of Ethics for Tribal Government. This code of ethics is really something our tribe needs, but we need it in all areas of our Creek Nation boundaries. I have always wondered why we spend so much money to fly all over the United States when we could bring the seminar to Okmulgee and include our community Indians.

With this in mind, I would like to report how much money was spent on me:

- air fare — \$466;
- lodging — \$129.60;
- seminar fees — \$375, and
- mileage to and from the airport.

With this in mind, consider that there were eight of us in our class so the amount would be times eight. Also, while we were there, there were three more Creek Nation employees arriving for another seminar across the hall.

The reason I am writing this letter is because I want to make a report on the money I used for this trip and to the Creek people to help us get a code of ethics in our tribe. This will help us to be dealt with fairly within our own tribal government.

Oh yes, with the money we spent going, we could have had an instructor come to Okmulgee and we could have included our community people (the trip was to Las Vegas).

Judy Roberts, Okemah

Citizen seeks information about relatives

Editor:

I am seeking information about Samuel Pleasant Berryhill and his daughters, Grace and Vivien. I believe that Berryhill was a preacher. If anyone has information, he or she can call me collect at (209) 946-0715.

Dale Curtis, Seattle, Wash.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal offices will be closed:

- Nov. 11 for Veterans Day; and
- Nov. 25 and 26 for Thanksgiving.

Remember our veterans who have paid freedom's price for us all. Never forget those missing in action (MIA) and prisoners of war (POWs).

Tribe begins 4-H pilot livestock project

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has implemented a 4-H program for Indian youth between ages nine and 19 who live within the Creek Nation boundaries.

The emphasis of this program is to encourage young people to enroll and participate in the 4-H activities within their county, said Robin Cooper, tribal 4-H agent.

As a part of the tribal program, the Creek Nation 4-H Advisory Committee accepted applications from young people throughout the Creek Nation to assist with funding for swine projects. The program is being funded with a grant from Conoco Oil Co. and matching funds appropriated by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

Projects were awarded to 17 4-H members from the Creek Nation. Those youth participating in the project are: B.J. Baker, Kellyville; Kristi Chambers, Okfaha; Louis Felix, Kellyville; Joyce Huitt, Porter; Lindsey Johnson, Okfaha; Jordan Lecher, Haskell; Christopher Mathews, Porter; Michael McCall, Glenpool; Robert McDougal, Kellyville; Dylan Rogers, Moss; Andrea Romero, Calvin; LaVicka Smith, Graham; Michelle Story, Moss; Joshua Stout, Glenpool; Cassandra Thompson, Schulter; and Brett Yocham, Kellyville.

The 4-H members will receive their pigs in November and raise them to show in livestock exhibits next spring.

After the show season, the participants are required to

compensate the tribal program by breeding their gilt and returning a pig from the litter. In this way, the participants will

learn responsibility to other 4-H members. It will also allow the committee to help other 4-H members the next year.

In addition to the swine project, there are other programs for Creek Nation 4-H members, Cooper said. Cooper. Any prospective 4-H member living within the Creek Nation can contact Cooper at: (918) 756-8700, ext. 370 or write P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.



Sherri Brokesoulder, of the Office of Public Gaming, presents a check to National Council Speaker Clarence Cloud for the Creek Nation 4-H swine project.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation commodity food distribution times and locales

- Hanna Indian Community Center — 1 to 2 p.m. the first Thursday of every month
- Wetumka Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the second Thursday of every month
- Weleetka Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month
- Wilson Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month
- Holdenville Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month
- Okemah Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the first and third Wednesday of every month
- Glenpool Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the first and third Wednesday of every month
- Eufaula Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the first and third Thursday of every month
- Bristow Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the first and third Thursday of every month
- Food distribution warehouse, tribal capitol complex, Okmulgee — 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of every month
- Kellyville Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the second and fourth Wednesday of every month
- Checotah Indian Community Center — 9 to 11:30 a.m. the second and fourth Thursday of every month

The food distribution program provides donated foods from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to eligible Indian households. One cannot participate in the food stamp program and the food distribution program simultaneously. The program has eligibility criteria. For more information, contact the food distribution program at (918) 756-2017, 3647, or 3002.

Holiday greeting from the Principal Chief

I want to remember all of our tribal members who are veterans of the armed forces, especially on Veterans Day. We must never forget that some have given their lives so that we might be free. Let us remember all of those who have answered that most high calling.

On behalf of me and my family, I want to wish each and everyone of you a wonderful Thanksgiving and I hope that the spirit of the holiday season is with all of you.

Sincerely,
Bill Fife, Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Administration proposes new master plan

continued from page 1

exists physically, economically, and governmentally," Wilson said.

The plan calls for each branch or service to be sectioned off in quarter parcels. The buildings will be constructed in a circular pattern with an opening facing east, following the traditional building pattern of the Muscogee people.

Facing north, will be the building housing the executive branch of government. The Solomon McCombs Executive Office Building will continue to be the main focus of the complex.

The legislative branch building will be juxtaposed east of the executive branch building. The judicial branch building will be erected south of the legislative branch structure. A garden plaza area will be constructed between the two buildings.

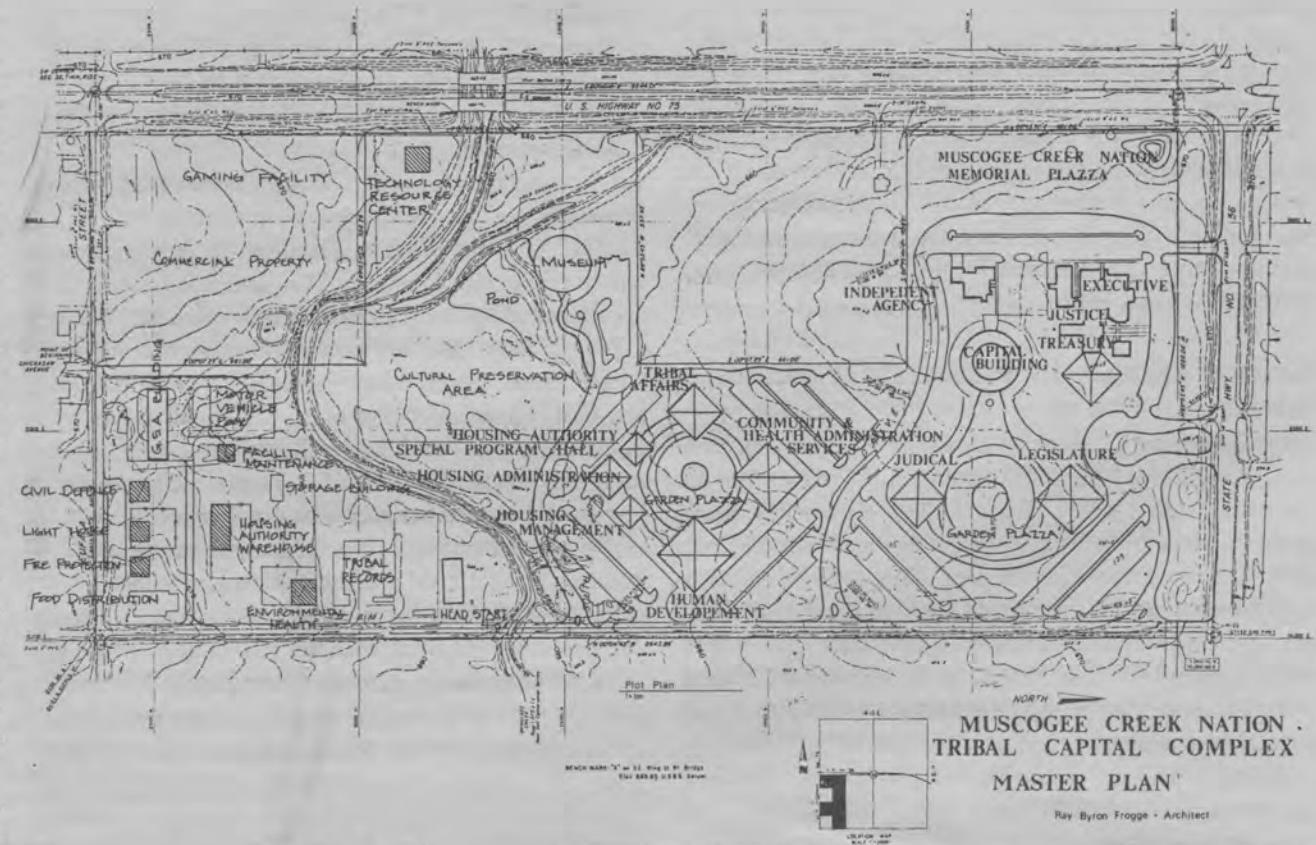
Approximately 10 acres is being reserved to continue accommodating Creek Nation Okmulgee Bingo.

Additionally, the tribe is planning on construction of a technology resource center to serve as a lab for the research and development of areas ranging from health to economic development. Developing the center along U.S. Highway 75 would make it accessible to fiber optic communication lines, once they are available in the area, said Wilson.

"We would like to include telecommunications capability in the technology resource center building," Wilson said.

Fife also indicated plans are being discussed to develop an industrial park separate from the capital complex, requiring an additional master plan.

Wilson said a bill pending in Congress could be a source



of funding for the judicial branch and lighthouse administration facilities. Proposals are being developed to fund a community services division building; a funding plan is

being packaged to finance other buildings included in the plan. Tribal and private funds will be sought to add beauty, arts, and memorial items to the site, Wilson said.

Primary election results

continued from page 1

Oklmulgee District

- Charlie Litsey, Seat C
- Jim Harjo, Seat D
- A.D. Ellis, Seat F

Tulsa District

- Larry Bible, Seat A
- Irene Cleghorn, Seat B
- Steve Bruner, Seat D
- Jess Kelley, Seat E
- Earl King, Seat F
- Perry Beaver, Seat G

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes

- Richard Berryhill, Seat A
- Barbara Gillespie, Seat B

Run-off elections (I denotes incumbent)

Creek District

- Patricia Curry, Earl Wheeler (I), Seat A
- David Cloud, Phyllis Warrington, Seat C

Hughes-Seminole District

- Tim Fife, Martha Long, Seat B

McIntosh District

- Thomas McIntosh, George Thompson, Seat E

Muskogee District

- Jerry Downum, Frances Pease, Seat C

Okfuskee District

- Mae Jackson (I), Tommie Yahola, Seat A

Okmulgee District

- Harvey Gilroy (I), Dave Lewis, Seat A
- Thomas Berryhill (I), Anderson Hale, Seat B
- David Nichols, George Tiger (I), Seat E
- Charlotte Anderson, Peggy Lyda, Seat G

Tulsa District

- Edwin Moore, Toske Willits, Seat C

Council overrides veto, will reduce size in 1996

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council voted to reduce its membership in the first meeting following the tribal primary election.

The Council voted to override Principal Chief Bill Fife's veto of NCA 93-123 at its Oct. 30 regular session.

Next year the number of Council representatives increases from 31 to 36 members.

In his veto message, Fife contended that the formula for calculating representation (one representative for each district and another per 1,100 citizens) could be interpreted to mean citizens within the district as well as within the Creek Nation.

Fife also contends that the "phrase 'with each district having a minimum of two representatives' destroys the concept of equal representation."

Despite those and other arguments, the Council voted 23 in favor and only one dissenting vote.

In other business, the Council:

- authorized the purchase of a truck and trailer for \$33,400;

— appropriated \$6,100 of bingo revenues to the Creek Nation 4-H swine project. The amount matches funds contributed by Conoco Oil Co.;

— appropriated \$400 each to Howard Edmundson of Dewar and Barry Parkerson of Coweta toward expenses of their participation in the Indian National Finals Rodeo;

— authorized the pursuit of trust status for properties in Dustin and Twin Hills;

— authorized the purchase of 115 twin bed mattresses for the Eufaula Dormitory;

— appropriated funds for emergency home repairs;

— confirmed the appointment of George Thompson of Yardeka, to the Creek Nation Housing Authority Board; and

— confirmed the appointments of Sandra Wilson of Eufaula, and Ramona Mason of Tulsa to the Eufaula Dormitory School Board.

The Council's next regular session is Nov. 20.

Precinct locations for the December 4 elections

Polls open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Creek District — Bristow, 710 S. Main; Sapulpa Indian Community Office, 1030 E. Taft Suite 110 (Creek Hills Mall)

Hughes-Seminole District — Dustin Senior Citizens Center, main street; Holdenville Indian Community, 416 E. Poplar; Wetumka Indian Community, 608 N. Creek

McIntosh District — Checotah Indian Community, 998 Maple; Eufaula Indian Community, 806 W. Forest Ave.; Hanna Indian Community, two and three-fourths miles miles east of Hanna's main street; Yardeka Indian Community, eight miles south of Henryetta on Lake Road

Muskogee District — Muskogee Indian Community, 111 S. Virginia

Okfuskee District — Okemah Indian Community, two blocks south of Interstate 40 on state highway 27; Weleetka Indian Community, 609 S. Chickasaw

Okmulgee District — Dewar Indian Community, 402 Luella St.; Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Capitol Complex, U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56

Tulsa District — Glenpool Indian Community, 13839 S. Casper (north of U.S. Highway 75 and S. 141st St.); Tulsa Indian Community Office, 6363 E. 31st St., Suite 105

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District — Koweta Indian Community, 30901 E. 141st St. (one-fourth mile east of Ben Lumpkin Road on 141st Street north)



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December 1993, 8 Pages

Principal Chief Fife reviews year, offers future plans in his holiday message

by Bill Fife, Principal Chief

There is no time more appropriate to express appreciation for tribal employees, the National Council, and citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation than the holidays. The support each has offered my administration during fiscal year 1993 enables our nation to progress.

Consequently, progress requires growth. Economic growth is a crucial element for the success of our nation; it will enhance our living standards and knit together our diverse society. Moreover, **growth requires good organization and commitment** to our mission, goals, and objectives.

I have been encouraged this year. Our nation has recruited qualified and resourceful individuals, both Creek and Yuchi, who are dedicated to our people and to making our government work. In the past, our brightest minds left Creek Nation to seek employment. The tide is turning slowly and these people are returning to lend energy and excellence to our work force. Let's hope this is the beginning of a new trend.

This year, we have concentrated on education for job preparation in several new ways. We have required that summer youth employment program participants attend an intensive, week-long training program at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee. The program introduces a variety of career programs, career testing, participation in job-related activities, and otherwise - prepares them for jobs before they report to work. Recently, we have provided education and training opportunities for employees to upgrade their skills or continue their education also. We have encouraged technical education as an alternative opportunity to train our people for rewarding work. I have put effort into creating a cooperative relationship between Creek Nation, local, state, and federal governments, while at the same time have been successful in exercising and maintaining our sovereign status.

Unfortunately, our largest project for business and industry, the Superconducting Super Collider Project, was rejected by Congress earlier this year. We are in the process of compiling a report of ex-



The MNN staff photo

Tribal, state, and local officials were on hand to dedicate the new Yeager Community Rural Fire Station. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation contributed funds to help provide rural fire assistance in the Hughes County area. Tribal officials present for the dedication ceremony included Principal Chief Bill Fife, first from right, Second Chief Shelly Crow, fourth from right, and Hughes District National Council Representative Dwayne Lowe, second from left.

Muscogee Council Election '93 Voters decide final 12 National Council seats

OKMULGEE — The 1994-95 Muscogee (Creek) National Council is elected.

The largest field of candidates (95) has been reduced to 36 as a result of the Dec. 4 run-off election. Both numbers are records for the tribal government since the ratification of the 1979 tribal constitution.

In all, there will be 19 new faces on the next Council. Seventeen incumbents were returned to office. Final results will not be official until they are certified Dec. 10. At press time, all results were unofficial.

In all, 13 incumbents were successful in their re-election bids. Eleven were defeated. Four incumbents were unopposed and three did not seek re-election.

In the Okfuskee District contest for Seat D, which was declared a tie after the Oct. 23 primary, incumbent Wynema Roberts made it a moot point by defeating challenger Billy Williams.

A Jan. 8 date has been tentatively set to swear in the 1994-95 Council.

Results from the Dec. 4 election (I denotes incumbent):

Creek District

Seat A — Earl Wheeler (I) defeated Pat Curry, 208 to 130

Seat C — Phyllis Warrington defeated David Cloud, 209 to 135

Hughes-Seminole District

Seat B — Tim Fife defeated Martha Long, 256 to 111

McIntosh District

Seat E — Thomas McIntosh defeated George Thompson, 383 to 182

Muskogee District

Seat C — Frances Pease defeated Jerry Downum, 80 to 30

Okfuskee District

Seat A — Mae Jackson (I) defeated Tommie Joe Yahola, 196 to 173

Seat D — Wynema Roberts (I) defeated Billy Williams, 217 to 165

Okmulgee District

Seat A — Dave Lewis defeated Harvey Gilroy (I), 419 to 223

Seat B — Anderson Hale defeated Thomas Berryhill (I), 321 to 310

Seat E — David Nichols defeated George Tiger (I), 337 to 305

Seat G — Peggy Lyda defeated Charlotte Anderson, 356 to 278

Tulsa District

Seat C — Edwin Moore defeated Toske Willits, 226 to 87

Council notes:

- The Council will have its next regular session Dec. 18. The planning session is Dec. 14. Both dates were changed because of the Christmas holiday.

- A complete roster of the Council-elect appears on page 8.

Second Chief discusses health care and other tribal issues for 1994

by Shelly Crow, Second Chief

As we design a new health care system, we are trying to plan for all ages — the new mother, baby, our elders, and parents who are trying to provide for their families.

Times are rough in the U.S., especially in Oklahoma; the economy has been hit hard.

Please pray for the newly-elected National Council to offer sound direction to the office of the Principal Chief in its examination of federal, state, county, and local issues confronting the tribe.

The office of the Principal Chief is in the progress of designing a transportation services system to make the health care system, employment, and education facilities more accessible to citizens. The Principal Chief's office is also researching ways to increase employment opportunities for citizens within Creek Nation.

We request your prayers in order to better represent you in your needs and concerns. I hope our communities, churches, and ceremonial grounds will be afforded more input in designing the future of the tribe.

My family and I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

LEGAL NOTICE

In the matter regarding B.B.W., this notice by publication is to Rick Cartwright, father of B.B.W. You are hereby notified that a termination hearing as to the above named child has been set in the above styled and numbered cause for 9 a.m. on the 24th day of January, 1994 before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore, District Judge, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma at which time you are directed to appear on said date.

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address.

Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department.

Jim Wolfe, managing editor

Stephanie Berryhill, senior staff writer

Letters to the editor

Creek descendants seek relatives

Editor:

We are looking for descendants or relatives of Ellis Hunter or James F. Hunter. We would like to hear from anyone who is related or knows family members of these two men. Individuals may write: Creekside, Attn. Burl Keith, P.O. Box 1234, Buena Vista, CO 81211, or call (719) 395-6416 collect in the evening. Susan MacDonald and Keith Hunter, Buena Vista, Colo.

New York reader seeks family history

Editor:

I am seeking information on my great-great-grandmother, Hannah Thomas Pope, who I believe was Creek. I believe that her mother, Addie, was full-blood Indian; Pope's father was black and white. Individuals with information regarding this family may write: Edward Hudson, 315 Breckenridge Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14213.

Edward Hudson, Buffalo, N.Y.

Citizen thankful for act

Editor:

I'm sure the people of our nation, along with many other nations, will rejoice at the attempt of the U.S. government to provide a small "island of right" in an "ocean of wrong" concerning American Indian artifacts.

The Native American Graves Protection Act and Repatriation Act, signed into law on Nov. 16, 1990 is, indeed, an interesting piece of legislation.

This is information that all of our citizens should be made aware of. Our people, as a nation, should pursue vigorously and demand reclamation of all items that are sacred or culturally significant to our tribe.

As a Creek citizen I would also like to see *The Muscogee Nation News* contribute its influence in gaining Council support in providing some type of provisions for these artifacts in the master site plan for the capitol complex. It is an area that would provide our young people with a deep and profound spirit of continuity to Creek heritage.

Fred Ellis Dobson, Tulsa

Citizen asserts nation is reservation

Editor:

At what point did the United States Congress rescind the reservation status of the Muscogee Nation? Could it have been during the termination or self-determination eras? Or is it possible that Congress never withdrew the status at all and the Department of the Interior took it upon themselves to withdraw the status?

In searching for the answer, I have come across some interesting findings.

"By the treaty of 1833 the United States agreed to grant a patent in fee simple to the Creek Nation of Indians for the lands assigned said nation... The right thus guaranteed by the United States shall be continued to said tribe of Indians so long as they exist as a nation and to continue to occupy the country hereby assigned them."

By the Treaty of 1856 the previous grants made to

the Muscogee tribe were confirmed, with the exception of certain lands, granted by treaty, to the Seminole Nation.

If our nation, by law, is still regarded as reservation land, could there be any economic benefits to this status? The citizens of the Muscogee Nation need to ask their respective National Council representatives about such a status. To be assertive, we as a nation, must stand up for what is ours and never lose hold of the title by which it was acquired.

Rick Wilde, Tulsa

New Council member appreciative

Editor:

I would like to offer a sincere thank you to the citizens of the Wagoner, Roger, and Mayes District for their votes and support in the primary election for National Council. Without the help of those who volunteered their time working on my campaign, my election to office would not have been possible. I will serve you with dedication and commitment.

Mvto.

Barbara Gillispie, Coweta

Council member commends voters

Editor:

I would like to thank McIntosh District voters for showing their trust in me by electing me as their representative for National Council, Seat D. But more importantly, I would like to commend you for your interest in tribal government and exercising your right to vote. Again, I thank you for your trust in me; I will serve you to the best of my ability.

Mvto.

Yahola Townsend, Checotah

Coweta incumbent thanks supporters

Editor:

I would like to thank all Wagoner, Rogers, and Mayes District constituents who offered me their support by electing me to another term of office on the National Council. As I have previously stated, helping meet the needs of Muscogee people is my top priority. I will stand firm on issues perpetuating tribal sovereignty, economic development, self-governance, and culture also.

Mvto.

Richard Berryhill, Coweta

Okfuskee District voters thanked

Editor:

I would like to thank everyone that supported and voted for me. I will do my best to represent the citizens of Okfuskee District and Creek Nation as a Council member.

Mvto.

Bruce Smith, Weleetka

Council member pledges service

Editor:

I would like to thank you all for the enormous support I received in the National Council primary election. I will continue to work for you and remain highly visible and active in tribal affairs.

A.D. Ellis, Twin Hills

In brief

Human development director resigns

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Human Development Director Abe McIntosh resigned his position effective Dec. 17.

McIntosh began his tribal employment shortly after Principal Chief Bill Fife assumed office. He was the tribal personnel director before heading the human development division. The division operates most of the tribal education programs.

"I doubt seriously that I can give any additional help to Chief Fife," McIntosh said. "The chief has his administration in place and his plans underway."

Immediately prior to his tribal employment, he was the City of Okmulgee personnel director. He is a retired educator, having begun his career as a science teacher and coach. He also served as a former superintendent of public schools. He concluded his education career as the head of the general education department at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee.

McIntosh has also served the tribe as a member of the health board during one of its most controversial periods and as a member of the housing authority board of commissioners.

Judge completes judicial course work

RENO, Nev. — Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court Judge Patrick E. Moore recently completed a tribal court jurisdiction course held at The National Judicial College in October.

The new course enables judges to focus on the following areas: the public's perception of tribal courts and judges; the function and purpose of tribal court bar examinations; how Indian gaming compacts affect state and tribal court jurisdiction; the role history plays in writing decisions involving federal Indian laws and tribal laws; and criminal and civil jurisdiction in Indian country.

Located on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno, the college was featured on "60 Minutes" as the leading training and education center for trial judges. Since the college's founding in 1963, more than 30,000 certificates of completion have been issued to graduates, including U.S. Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and David Souter.

Sapulpa clinic adds dentist

SAPULPA — The Sapulpa Indian Health Center has added a new dentist to staff. Raymond F. Lala, DDS, a native of New Orleans, La., comes to Creek Nation with 15 years of general practice dentistry.

He is a graduate of the University of New Orleans, and Louisiana State University Dental School.

The two-year assignment is his first as an Indian Health Service dentist. He said Creek Nation chief dental officer Dr. Doug White's enthusiasm about the tribe convinced him to select the Sapulpa duty.

"And I liked the idea of the complete medical and dental care offered at the Sapulpa facility," Lala said.

Lala and his wife, Phyllis, have two children: Andy, 11; and Erin, 4.

"He is good with children, friendly to the patients, and eager to get started," White said. "We know he will be an asset to our program."

The Muscogee Nation operates dental clinics in Sapulpa, Eufaula, and Okmulgee.



Transportation planning
Tribal officials discuss various road projects within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries. Seated from left to right are: Gerald Dorksen, Oklahoma State University County Extension; Second Chief Shelly Crow; Principal Chief Bill Fife; tribal affairs director Woody Anderson; and transportation planner Dave McKinney. Standing is Fred Eirich, OSU extension.

The MNN staff photo

Council maintains judicial branch autonomy

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council voted against an amendment which would have placed the judicial branch budget under control of the tribal treasury during its November regular and quarterly session.

National Council Act 89-162, Section 101, provides for judicial branch control of "...expenditures and budget modifications within sources of revenue and approved line items." Its budget is exclusive of the general tribal budget.

The Council voted 20 in favor and two against the amendment.

In other business, the Council:

- amended NCA 93-139 to provide for total tribal funding of the community health representatives' eyeglass program for fiscal year 1994;
- amended the gaming operations authority board's attorney contract with Heskett Law Firm in order to secure their services through April 30, 1996;
- appropriated matching funds of \$2,000 from the FY '94 bingo revenue account to the financially-afflicted Murrow Indian Children's Home, Muskogee, for a fundraising event;
- appropriated \$5000 in supplemental funding from the FY '94 bingo revenue account to the children and family services administration's school clothing pro-

gram because of program implementation and increasing applicants. Because many children of the "impoverished" Hanna area did not have access to application sites, the ordinance provides that funding be provided to those children exclusively;

- approved NCA 93-166, a continuing ordinance for the FY '94 comprehensive budget. National Council Act 93-139 provided for approval of two months of the FY '94 budget, which expired Nov. 30. National Council Act 93-166 allows the Council more time to make a thorough review of the budget; it provides for legislative authorization for appropriation and tribal expenditures through Dec. 31 also;

- established a natural disaster act of 1993 providing for assistance up to \$500 for eligible, tribally-enrolled, household heads that have lost their possessions because of disasters. It authorizes the tribal controller to utilize \$10,000 from the permanent fund account for the act;

- amended 93-158 for specification of funding source. The ordinance appropriates funds for the inspection and reporting of repairs for Creek Nation Muskogee Bingo and provides for the establishment of a select committee. The amendment authorizes funding be appropriated from the Muskogee bingo operations account.

Tribe to begin low income energy assistance program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department will be taking applications for the low income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) at the tribal capitol complex beginning Dec. 6, throughout December.

Previous program participants have been notified by mail. Home visits will be made as needed for those physically unable to travel. The energy assistance program is designed to assist Indian people by paying for the participants' primary source of heating. Income guidelines are applicable. Payments will be made to the vendor.

For more information, contact the social services department at (918) 756-8700.

Tribal 4-H program begins swine project for youth

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation 4-H program began its swine program as participants received their gilts (female swine that have not produced a litter) Nov. 13 at the Okmulgee County Fairgrounds.

A showmanship demonstration was performed by Shawna Moore, Okmulgee County 4-H member. Also present were National Council Speaker Clarence Cloud and Bureau of Indian Affairs employee Teasie McCrary.

Programs are being planned for 4-H members living within the tribal boundaries, said Robin Cooper, Creek Nation 4-H extension agent. Any 4-H members interested in more information can contact Cooper at (918) 756-8700, ext. 370.

In brief**City Creeks offer language classes**

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association began holding Mvskoke language classes Dec. 2. Classes will be held from 7 to 9 p.m., each Thursday for eight weeks.

The beginning level class will be held at the Native American Children's Connection, located at 2834 N.W. 24th. For more information, call (405) 946-1139.

Alumni hold New Year's Eve dance

TULSA — Sequoyah Boarding School Alumni Association will be holding a New Year's Eve dance Dec. 31 in Tulsa. The dance will be held from 7 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. at Quality Inn, located at Interstate 244 and Garnett. Admission is \$8 per person. The disc jockey will be Jim Horse. For more information, call Leah Jack at (918) 224-2064.

Mvskoke calendars available

OKLAHOMA CITY — Nineteen ninety-four Mvskoke calendars are available for purchase.

A list of Creek churches and meeting dates are also listed on the calendar. They may be purchased for \$3. If ordering by mail, include an additional 50 cents for postage and handling. To purchase a calendar, write: George Bunny, 2941 Cashion Place, Oklahoma City, OK 73112.

Orthodontic screenings scheduled

OKMULGEE — Screenings for Creek youth needing orthodontic care are scheduled at Creek Nation Eufaula, Okmulgee, and Sapulpa dental clinics from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Dec. 10 and Jan. 14.

Applicants will be screened for selection to the program by attending one of the screening clinics.

To meet tribal eligibility requirements, applicants must be enrolled Creek citizens between the ages of 12 and 19 who show a willingness and commitment to undergo and complete a comprehensive regimen that may require 24 to 30 months of treatment. Participants in the program are also expected to achieve and maintain good oral health.

Applicants should bring their certificate degree of Indian blood, tribal citizenship cards, and insurance information to the screening clinics.

Information can also be obtained by calling any of the clinics: Eufaula, (918) 689-2547; Okmulgee, (918) 756-4667; and Sapulpa, (918) 224-9310.

Creek Nation Head Start disclaimer

The Creek Nation Head Start Program announces participation in the child and adult care food program at its Eufaula, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, and Yeager Head Start centers. All participants will be offered the same meals at no separate charge and with no physical segregation of, or other discrimination against any participant because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. The child and adult care food program is an equal opportunity program. If individuals believe they have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, immediately write to: Oklahoma Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs, 2500 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599.

Dedication ceremony honoring Opothleyahola to be held at tribal complex

OKMULGEE — A tribal dedication ceremony and unveiling of a bronze portrait of Mvskoke prophet Opothleyahola will be held at the tribal capital complex at 10 a.m., Dec. 11.

The leader was inducted into the National Hall of Fame for Famous American Indians, Anadarko, in August.

The program includes: welcome, Thomas Berryhill; Friendship Dance, Tallahassee Ceremonial Ground; recognition of tribal towns—ceremonial grounds, Edwin Marshall; recognition of Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation Marva Jackson, Berryhill; recognition of de-

scendents of Opothleyahola, Berryhill; remarks, Principal Chief Bill Fife; presentation, Opothleyahola, prophet-speaker-medicine man; dedicatory address, Thomas Yahola; acknowledgment of sculptress, Betty Butts, film; unveiling of portrait in bronze, Tuckabatchee Ceremonial Ground Mekko Tom Lowe; introduction of John Proctor, Vivian Proctor; ceremony, John Proctor; closing dance, Tallahassee; and reception, lobby.

The ceremony will be held in the independent agencies (mound) auditorium, located at U.S. Highway 75 and loop 56.

Commission selects Ponca woman as first director

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission appointed Barbara Warner as executive director in a unanimous decision made during its November meeting.

"Our new executive director has served as deputy director for the commission since March 1993 and has made major contributions to the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission during these few months of her employment. She was the logical and the right choice," OIAC chair Shelly Crow said.

The appointment came as a result of the resigna-

tion of former director Nathan Hart, Cheyenne, who left the commission to enter into an investment partnership.

Warner, Ponca, is from White Eagle. Her qualifications include a master's of business administration and bachelor's degrees in sociology and English. She has worked in tribal governments, in a university setting, and in the private and public sectors. A proposal writer, she has generated grant funding totaling more than \$2.5 million in the past two years for various tribal organizations.

Muskogee bureau to hold oil and gas conference for Creeks

MUSKOGEE — The Bureau of Indian Affairs Minerals Section, Branch of Trust is sponsoring the Muscogee (Creek) Allottee's Oil and Gas Conference Dec. 15.

The conference will begin at 9 a.m. Among topics to be discussed are: problems with royalty payment; oil and gas leasing within the Five Civilized Tribes; problems with direct payee; oil and gas activities in the Creek Nation; the 1947 act leases; legislative re-

form; and royalty payment paid through Mineral Management System.

All Creek allottees and heirs are encouraged to attend the outreach meeting. It will be held at Northeastern State University, Muskogee Campus, located at 24th Street and Shawnee Bypass.

For more information, call supervisory realty specialist Charles Robertson at (918) 687-2323.

Cultural office explains mission, seeks citizens' assistance

OKMULGEE — From missionary accounts to anthropological studies, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has relied on non-Indians to document traditional culture — thus the Enfoletv Momen Opvnaka Lvce (the office of cultural education) was established in February 1993.

As tribes are attempting to reclaim political power through self-governance, the Muscogee Nation is also trying to reclaim cultural responsibility and maintain traditional culture, values, and ideas. Objectives of the office include researching traditional Creek culture and history from a tribal point of view, while introducing ideas and issues which will promote the tribe's cultural and intellectual growth. Language preservation is a priority, as are efforts to establish a tribal resource center.

Currently, the office is conducting two projects which require community input:

- a cultural resources directory listing Muscogee artists, dancers, storytellers, etc., and citizens with traditional skills or knowledge which could be utilized for future projects; and

- seeking information regarding community projects which have been designed to promote awareness and appreciation of Creek traditions.

Completing these projects will assist the office in becoming a source of information, direction, and technical assistance for community-based cultural programs. For more information, contact staff members Timmy Thompson or Rochelle Vaughan by writing: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or call (918) 756-8700.

Moving?

Keep your address current!

It is the responsibility of the subscriber to keep his or her address current with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department to ensure de-

livery of *The Muscogee Nation News*.

The MNN is mailed in bulk rate and will not be forwarded to your new address by the U.S. Postal Service. It's also a good idea to keep your address current with the tribal citizenship and election boards.

Student news

Creek medical student serves on staff

BEMIDJI, Minn. — Muscogee citizen Brent Hale Jr. served on the faculty of the 1993 Native American College Preparatory Summer Program at Bemidji State University last summer.

The NACPS is a five-week residential learning experience. The program is open to gifted American Indian students entering grades nine and 10.

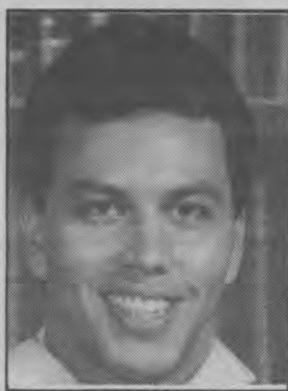
Hale was the instructor for basic medicine and biology courses. He also explained prerequisites required for pre-medical school, the application process, and entrance exam.

Hale has been invited to return as a staff member for the 1994 program.

He is a 1992 graduate of the University of Kansas and is a second-year medical student at Harvard Medical School, Boston Mass.

He is co-chair and member of the Native American Health Organization. The organization recently honored the late Dr. Don Bowen, Creek, an HMS graduate. The organization has established The Don Bowen Memorial, which recognizes any Native American HMS or Harvard School of Public Health graduate.

Hale and his wife, Monica, have two children, Jessica and Adam. He is the son of Brent and Bernice Harjo Hale of Okmulgee. He is a former member of the tribal citizenship board.



Hale

Creek named student of the month

OKLAHOMA CITY — Fifth-grade Creek student Jennifer Walter was selected September student of the month at Capitol Hill Elementary School.

Having maintained a 4.0 grade point average during the first school quarter, Walter was a recipient of the principal's award in November.

Walter is the daughter of Susan Walter and Eddy Najar; her grandparents are Clarence and Shirley Walter, all of Oklahoma City. Her great-grandmother is Mildred Walter of Lamar.



Walter

Okmulgee Creek student of the month

OKMULGEE — Eastside Elementary School student Vincent Harjo was named October student of the month. This year marks his fourth consecutive year to be named a student of the month.

He is the son of Arthur Cato and Tammy Harjo of Okmulgee. His maternal grandparents are Wanda and the late Buddie Harjo Jr. of Hanna. His paternal grandparents are Ethel and the late Theodore Cato of Oklahoma City.

Muskoke-Yuchi artist graduates from institute

SAN FRANCISCO — Muskoke-Yuchi dean's list student Steve Deo will graduate from the San Francisco Art Institute in December.

Deo attended the Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, N.M., from 1990 through 1992. He graduated with an associate arts degree in two and three dimensional art. He enrolled at the art institute in 1992, majoring in painting. He is a recipient of the Sobel Scholarship, awarded to students with outstanding painting portfolios.

His artwork is displayed at Copeland Rutherford Gallery, Santa Fe, and Gallery Piazza, Sausalito.



Deo

"My goal as an artist is to progress and change in style and meaning, and to continually redefine my approach to my personal cultural duality."

Deo also sculpts, makes jewelry, and creates in clay. He placed third in sculpture at the Trail of Tears Show in 1990.

He also is a motivational speaker for Indian youth, encouraging them to honor their culture and continue their education. One of his personal priorities includes returning to participate in Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground ceremonies each summer.

He is the son of the late Martha Sue Deo of Tulsa. His paternal grandparents are the late Amos and Ada Deo of Hanna. His maternal grandparents are John and Alice Greenwood Brown of Liberty Mounds.

Following graduation, Deo plans to enroll in the institute's master of arts program in fall 1994. He plans to pursue his career as a professional artist and teach painting at the college level.

Society news

Tribal member's writing published

NEW YORK — Creek tribal member Martha Gene Kezer Merideth has been featured in Legacies, a newly published collection of short remembrances written by senior Americans.

The product of a contest sponsored by The Jewish Association for Services for the Aged, Legacies was published by HarperCollins and introduced to bookstores nationwide in November.

During 1991 through 1992 the association sponsored a writing contest for Americans age 60 or older, inviting participants to share their past by telling stories about their lives. More than 800 entries were received from contestants throughout the country. Meredith was one of two Oklahomans whose legacies were among 162 featured in the book.

Meredith's maternal grandmother, Jeanetta Harvison Brook, was the subject of the story. The story portrays Brook's country kitchen and home remedies, seen through the granddaughter's eyes.

Meredith was born in 1921 in Okemah; she and her husband, K.W. Meredith, have been married for 51 years. A retired licensed practical nurse, she is active in Okemah United Methodist Church, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Okfuskee County Historical Society, and other civic organizations.

Creek-Yuchi boy celebrates birthday

TULSA — Creek-Yuchi citizen Mark Alan Back Jr. celebrated his third birthday with a football party theme on Oct. 4. A football cake and cookout was enjoyed by family and friends.

He is the son of Mark and Stephanie Back of Tulsa. His maternal grandparents are Melba Williams of Glenpool and Joe Skeeter of Liberty Mounds. Paternal grand-



Back

parents are Jerry and Margaret Back of Tulsa. His maternal great-grandparents are Jimmy Skeeter of Liberty Mounds and Howard Williams of Bixby. His paternal great-grandmother is Edna Back of Flint Mich.

Deeres' announce daughter's marriage

DULAC, La. — Jerry and Josephine Allen Deere announce the marriage of their daughter, Carlene Danielle Allen, to Elvis Belliott of Dulac, La. on Nov. 7. The Belliotts have made their home in Dulac, where they are both employed.

Allen is the daughter of the late Harvey C. Allen also. She is the granddaughter of Fannie Berryhill Chalakee and the late Rev. John Chalakee.

Community briefs

Checotah Indian Community giftshop hours expand for holiday season

CHECOTAH — The Checotah Indian Community giftshop has expanded its store hours for the holiday season. The shop is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Saturday through the holiday season. The shop stocks beading supplies, tee shirts, and artwork. Layaway is available.

The community is planning to hold beginning and advanced Muskoke language classes. The classes are free to all Checotah Indian Community members. For more information, call (918) 473-5290.

Wilson Indian Community schedules Christmas dinner

WILSON — Wilson Indian Community is holding its Christmas dinner at 6 p.m., Dec. 18. Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish. The community center is located one quarter of a mile north of Wilson Public Schools on Wilson Road.

Paden Indian Community announces contact for correspondence

PADEN — Mail concerning the Paden Indian Community should be addressed to Mildred Bullard at P.O. Box 354, Paden, OK 74860.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation obituaries

DANIEL DAVID BURGESS JR.

HENRYETTA — Funeral services were held for Daniel "Danny" David Burgess Jr. on Oct. 27 at the Church of Christ. Don Branscum officiated.

Burgess died Oct. 23. He was born March 10, 1975, in Tahlequah, to Daniel David Sr. and Becky Lee Bowen Burgess. Burgess was a senior at Henryetta High School and a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include: his father, of the home; paternal grandmother, Flora Burgess of Henryetta; and maternal grandfather, W.F. Bowen of Wann.

Pallbearers were: Jason Stinson; Billy Swearingen; Jason Waldrop; Brian Henderson; John King; and Steve Taylor. Interment was in Salt Creek Cemetery.

RUFUS COX SR.

OKMULGEE — Services for Rufus "Buddy" Vernon Cox Sr. were held Nov. 17 at Newtown United Methodist Church with Rev. Sam Chupco officiating. Cox, a resident of Ada, died Nov. 14 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital.

He was born in Okmulgee May 16, 1920 to Porter E. and Stella Haynes Cox. He was of the Methodist faith. He was baptised at Newtown in 1935. He attended Okmulgee Public Schools and was a retired electrical lineman. He spent most of his life as a horse trainer. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Okmulgee and the Disabled American Veterans in Ada.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, 1942 through 1945, in the South Pacific, receiving the Silver Star, four Bronze Stars, and the Purple Heart. He was a veteran of the Battle of Guadalcanal also. He married Dorothy L. Kailey of Morris in 1947. In 1966 he married Pauline Bromley Wadley of Okmulgee.

Survivors include: his wife, Pauline, of the home; a son, Rufus "Buddy" Cox Jr., Oklahoma City; a daughter, Carolyn Torix, Okmulgee; one brother, Claude Cox, Okmulgee; one sister, Ann Gordon, Okmulgee; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; four stepchildren; three stepgrandchildren; several nieces; nephews; and cousins.

Honorary pallbearers were Curtis Simmers and Bob Perry. Interment was in the Okmulgee Cemetery Military Circle.

JOSEPH EARL GRIFFITH

GLENPOOL — Funeral services for Joseph Earl Griffith were held Nov. 19 at First Grace Church. Services were officiated by Pastor Bob Thomas, Brother Leon Barnhart, and Brother Bill Bethel.

Griffith died Nov. 18 in Sapulpa. He was born to Sim L. and Shellie L. Barber Griffith Aug. 12, 1924 in Glenpool.

Griffith lived all of his life in the Glenpool area. He married Dorothy Williamson in 1946.

His occupations included: sheetrocking; tape installing; licensed welder; and mechanic. He was most recently employed by Gulf Oil Company; he retired from the Hilltop Corporation in 1977. Griffith was a deacon at First Grace Church. His favorite pastimes were fishing, hunting, reading, and solving crossword puzzles.

He was preceded in death by: his father; and brother, Howard Griffith.

He is survived by: his wife, of the home; his mother, of Glenpool; daughters, Phyllis E. Huse of Glenpool and Kathy Lee Griffith of Tulsa; son, Doug Griffith of Glenpool; son-in-law, Michael Huse of Glenpool; granddaughter, Shellie Sim Berry; and numerous cousins;

nieces; and friends.

Casket bearers were: Tracy Powell; Aaron Hunter; Jay Hunter; Lee Putnam; Leroy Melson; and Roger Melson. Interment was in Bixby Cemetery.

CHARLIE MARSHALL

GORE — Funeral services for Charlie Marshall, of Glenpool, were held on Nov. 3 at Cedar Springs Church.

Marshall, 46, died Oct. 30 in Tulsa.

He graduated from Gore High School and attended Northeastern State University. For 20 years, he was a shipping clerk for Hevi-Duty-Nelson Electric. Survivors include: wife, Debbie, of the home; daughter, Amy Hill; sons, Michael and Mark; stepson, Jason Manning; brothers, David Marshall and Tiger Jones; sisters, Phyllis Yargee and Annette Jones; and two grandchildren.

Interment was in Webber Cemetery.

NANNIE DOWNING LOWE McNAC

SCHULTER — Services for Nannie Downing Lowe McNac were held Nov. 8 at Little Cussetah United Methodist Church. Revs. Jerry Byrd and George W. Harjo officiated.

She was born March 5, 1909 to Nancy and Sandford Downing. She was a homemaker and member of Little Cussetah United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband, Dave McNac; son, Sandford Lowe; stepdaughters, Suckie Lowe and Winnie Taryole; and stepson, Tommy Lowe.

Survivors include: daughters, Elizabeth Harper of Jamestown, N.Y., Louise Lowe of Henryetta, and Linda Lowe of Dewar; sons, Benjamin Lowe of Sapulpa, and Legus Lowe of Dewar; three stepchildren, Leona Harjo of Selma, Calif., Andrew Lowe of Tulsa, and John Lowe of Bryant; 14 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Stanley Harper; Kevin Watson; Julian Watson; Gary Watson; Corey Carlson; Daryl Lowe; Wilbert Lowe; and "Hut" Lowe. Interment was in Lackey Cemetery in Hitchita.

REBECCA YARGEEL STROUD

THLOPHTHOCCO — Funeral services for life-long Okemah resident Rebecca Yargee Stroud were held Nov. 4 at Thlophlocco United Methodist Church.

She was born March 11, 1922 in Okemah. She was an active member of Thlophlocco United Methodist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Woodrow Stroud.

Survivors include: sons, Tony Martin of Okmulgee, Alan Yargee of Newalla, and Gary Rodgers of Glenpool; brother, Amos Yargee of Vinita; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Interment was in Thlophlocco Cemetery.

EUGENE FIELDS

HENRYETTA — Services for Eugene Fields were held Oct. 16 at Immanuel Baptist Church. A Rose Croix Scottish Rite Ceremony was held during the service.

He died Oct. 13 at his home in Henryetta. He was born June 3, 1919, in Hanna, to Kogee Fields and Peggie Harper.

He was enlisted in the Air Force and was a veteran of World War II. Fields married Estalene Chisolm in 1983. He was a retired American Airlines employee.

Fields was a charter member of the Henryetta Masonic Lodge. He was a member of the Manford Masonic Lodge and the Scottish Rite in McAlester and

Tulsa. He was former Masonic grand priest of the state of Oklahoma and former master of the Manford lodge.

Survivors include: his wife, of the home; son, Paul Fields of Fort Payne, Ark.; three grandsons; two great-grandchildren; several step children; and a sister, Sarah Farber of Wetumka. Interment was at Vernon Cemetery in Coweta.

WALTER JONES SR.

NUYAKA — Funeral services for Walter Jones Sr. were held Nov. 16 at Nuyaka Baptist Church with Revs. Wilson Hicks and Gene Harjo officiating.

Jones died Nov. 13 in Okemah. He was born March 11, 1917, in Okfuskee County, to Austin and Parlie Bear Jones.

He was married to Mary Yahola Jones, who preceded him in death.

Jones served in the U.S. Army, 22nd Infantry. He received the Purple Heart, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. He was a member of Nuyaka Baptist Church.

Survivors include: daughters, Sally Good Voice, Pauline Rabbit, and Linda Minter, all of Okmulgee, and Esther Jones of Okemah; sons, Jimmie Jones of Eufaula, Paul, Fred, and Walter Jones, all of Okmulgee, and Loper Jones of Shawnee; sister, Stella Roberts of Okemah; brothers, Elmer Jones of Morris and Harry Douglas of Okemah; 23 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. Interment was in Montesoma Cemetery.

JUDY LASLEY PROCTOR

HANNA — Funeral services for Judy Lasley Proctor were held Nov. 15 at Weogufkee Baptist Church with Rev. James Colbert officiating.

Proctor was born July 19, 1918, in Hanna, to Lizzie Lasley. She died Nov. 11 in Tulsa. Wake services were held Nov. 14.

She was a member of Weogufkee Baptist Church and of the Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association. Proctor was a homemaker and was married to Andy Proctor who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by: a son, Bill; and two infant children.

Survivors include: sons, Luster Proctor of Hanna, and Andrew Proctor of Broken Arrow; five daughters, Minnie Proctor, Liza Proctor, and Lula Tansey, all of Tulsa, Linda McCoy of Sallisaw, and Della Proctor of Hanna; 20 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. Interment was in Weogufkee Cemetery.

SALLIE WILLISON HAYS SELF

TULSA — Funeral services for Sallie Willison Hays Self were held Nov. 18 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church with Father Patrick Douthitt officiating. Self died Nov. 16 at her residence.

She was born Sept. 27, 1902 to Pierce and Kootza Shannon Hays. Her grandparents were Captain George and Mary Shannon. Her great-grandparents were Chief William and Catherine Hettie McIntosh. Self was an original allottee. She belonged to the Wind Clan and Koweta Tribal Town.

She attended Virginia College in Roanoke, Va. and Oklahoma University, with postgraduate studies at Northeastern State University and Tulsa University. She taught school in Wagoner where she met and married William Self, also an original allottee and Choctaw citizen. She became a full-time homemaker until his death in 1953. She resumed her teaching career at John Ross Elementary School, in Tulsa, until her retirement.

She is survived by: daughters, Sally Ann Self and Jane Self; brothers, Morgan Hays, Pawhuska, and Stephen Hays, Kenner, La.; many nieces; and nephews.

Quarterly financial statement

For the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1993 (fourth quarter, fiscal year 1993)

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of the Treasury produces a series of monthly budgetary and general ledger reports on all activities and programs of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as one of its major functions.

These reports are made available to appropriate tribal management personnel and other interested parties.

The office of the treasury maintains an accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

It meets the standards and reporting requirements of the Government Finance Officers Association and the reporting requirements of the A-128 Single Audit Act.

Reports prepared under these standards tend to be technical and complex by nature. It may require a more in-depth understanding of both accounting principles and fund accounting than those of other entities.

A summary is submitted quarterly in order to keep tribal members aware of the financial status of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

This statement has been prepared on a cash basis to reflect receipts and expenditures on a year-to-date basis.

PROGRAM NAME	RECEIPTS	BUDGET	ENCUMBERED	EXPENDED	UNENCUMBERED
Treasury	28,410	16,648	0	16,546	102
Litigation & Lobbying	427,630	209,935	0	127,646	82,289
General Taxes & Licenses	1,535,119	1,561,232	4,321	1,456,136	100,775
Administration / Indirect	1,678,006	2,363,926	3,588	1,816,585	543,753
Consumer Loans	18,094	55,568	90	39,238	16,240
Creek Nation Bingo	3,439,539	4,254,166	7,231	3,930,489	316,446
CN Permanent Fund	213,987	49,364	0	49,346	18
1992 Tribal Budget	142,381	8,000	0	7,683	317
1993 Tribal Budget	1,153,179	1,155,947	7,831	980,269	183,509
JTPA 1991	368	27,579	0	0	27,579
JTPA '91 Title IIB	524,980	531,394	231	528,040	3,585
JTPA Title IVA PY '92	607,005	1,191,891	438	631,832	560,497
Child Care DBG	649,505	1,039,014	1,224	718,319	321,919
HHS - Head Start 1992	283,978	283,978	0	283,978	0
ADM On Aging '92	67,216	67,216	0	67,216	0
Com. Ser. Block Grant '92	2,150	2,816	0	2,520	296
CCDBG '92	148,163	1,225,177	2,327	155,922	1,071,582
LIHEAP '92	875	1,747	0	875	872
Title IV - B Child. Svcs.	822	1,717	0	822	895
Homeless Assist Act '92	0	50	0	0	50
Family Violence Prev. '93	29,895	34,707	150	34,138	719
HHS - Head Start 1993	468,274	841,101	40,713	544,040	337,774
ADM On Aging '93	55,974	101,007	751	60,111	40,145
Com. Ser. Block Grant	6,092	16,165	0	6,115	10,050
LIHEAP '93	49,274	49,488	0	49,280	208
Homeless Asst. '93	3,250	3,277	0	3,250	27
Spec Needs Adoption Prog.	115,919	150,000	310	138,908	10,782
Tribal Affairs	350,000	354,825	0	4,036	350,789
Com. Dev. Block Grant '90	5,354	3,496	0	3,496	0
1992 Food Distribution	125	16,326	0	125	16,201
FDP FY '93	270,346	293,111	1,677	279,871	11,563
OIAC - Energy Assistance	22,500	22,500	0	22,500	0
Admin. On Aging USDA - reimb.	76,879	50,560	0	48,289	2,271
Headstart USDA Reimburse	47,064	48,194	1,060	47,123	2,131
Euf. Dorm - Activity Fund	25,516	3,084	0	0	3,084
Creek Nation Court Clerk	3,614	3,799	0	3,349	450
Election Board	10,998	4,093	0	4,020	73
BIA T & TA Workshop	4,158	7,622	0	0	7,622
BIA - Adult Education	75,682	172,302	219	86,411	86,110
BIA - Aid To Tribal Govt	45,305	92,356	15,410	65,957	41,809
BIA - Community Services	148,163	185,338	364	164,775	29,199
BIA - Natural Resources	295,985	517,895	16,290	347,426	154,179
BIA - Adult Voc. Training	211,372	392,771	12	257,985	134,774
BIA - Employment Assist.	37,720	58,897	0	39,235	19,662
BIA - JOM Early Childhood	14,440	14,517	0	14,488	29
BIA - Agriculture	176,144	274,853	2,500	169,863	107,490
BIA - Social Services	331,384	470,764	1,326	361,726	110,364
BIA - Housing	243,973	267,707	20,213	252,324	35,596
BIA - Real Est. Appraisals	119,471	151,035	389	130,997	20,427
BIA - Real Estate Services	180,326	268,976	106	198,345	70,737
Eufaula Dormitory	102,682	45	0	0	45
BIA - Indian Child Welfare	7,439	8,240	0	7,438	802
BIA - Business Dev. Grant	274,769	224,769	0	224,769	0
1992 Eufaula Dormitory	1,013,383	1,324,356	10,235	1,027,334	286,787
BIA - JOM	12,006	12,006	0	12,006	0
Tribal Judicial & Court	89,488	93,845	88	89,439	4,494
Law Enforcement Program	588,988	699,146	1,153	611,283	86,710
Tribal Self Governance	49,412	47,539	504	43,118	3,917
Indian Child Welfare '92	119,913	209,819	200	127,880	82,139
BIA - Trans. Improv. Program	55,506	112,000	313	59,497	52,190
BIA - Child Abuse Initiative	44,685	90,100	117	48,041	41,942
JOM Program	607,112	867,513	52	725,854	141,607
SG Negotiation Grant	20,109	20,000	220	4,315	15,905
Tribal Agric Program	4,492	68,809	663	43,114	26,358
Mgmt Advisory Services	7,500	10,000	675	8,869	1,806
Com. Health Rep. '89	19,171	171,534	0	0	171,534
Community Health Rep. '92	89,502	101,841	0	89,502	12,339
CN Housing Authority	3,777	15,397	0	2,674	12,723
Construction Company	678,005	1,328,526	0	826,072	502,454
CHR '93	667,603	1,126,649	21,989	705,557	443,081
CN Mfg. Enterprises	100,480	100,000	0	98,274	1,726
Communication Revng Fnd	3,892	12,549	0	12,549	0
Tribal - Real Prop & Facilities	664,277	663,119	3,429	616,271	50,277
Tribal - Property & Supply	104,996	79,475	300	73,373	6,402
CN Foun. Scholarship Fund	3,680	5,000	0	4,852	148
Festival Committee '93	94,929	81,251	0	78,772	2,479
Totals	\$19,774,400	\$26,391,659	\$168,709	\$19,692,498	\$5,773,854

Religious briefs

Indian Falls Creek theme chosen

SEMINOLE — "Here's Hope; Share Jesus Now" is the theme for the 1994 Indian Falls Creek Baptist Assembly June 20 through 24. The theme was selected at the 1994 Indian Falls Creek Board of Directors meeting held at Indian Nations Baptist Church in Seminole.

Indian Falls Creek is an annual religious retreat for Indians held at Falls Creek Baptist Assembly Grounds in the Arbuckle Mountains near Davis. Executive director Bill Barnett claims the assembly is the largest religious encampments for American Indians in America. Last year, more than 3,000 attended the week-long encampment.

Victor Cope, pastor of Moore First Indian Baptist, is board chair.

Barnett re-elected to state Baptist office

OKLAHOMA CITY — Rev. Bill Barnett, pastor of Indian Nations Baptist Church, Seminole, has been re-elected to the first vice-presidency of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. Barnett, with two others, became the first officers since 1937 to be re-elected.

Springtown to hold Christmas program

BROKEN ARROW — Springtown United Methodist Church has scheduled their Christmas program and a watch night for December.

The program will be held at 7 p.m., Dec. 19. The watch night will be observed Dec. 31 with Mvskoke hymn singing. "Invitation is extended to anyone who would like to learn Creek songs or if you just want to listen," said church member Josephine Allen Deere.

The church holds its Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., its worship service begins at 11 a.m.; Sunday evening Bible study begins at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday evening fellowship is held at 7 p.m.

The church is located seven miles east of Broken Arrow on 71st Street, three miles north on Oak Grove Road, and one-half a mile east on 41st Street.

Big Cussetah schedules Christmas dinner

MORRIS — Big Cussetah United Methodist Church is holding its Christmas dinner on fourth Sunday, Dec. 12.

The church Christmas program will begin at 7 p.m., Dec. 24.

Sunday school is held from 10 to 10:45 a.m. The worship service is held from 11 a.m. to noon. The Christmas dinner will be held around noon.

The church is located three miles east of Okmulgee on U.S. Highway 62 and three and one-half miles south on Prairie Bell Road.

Methodist women set Christmas fete

PRESTON — The Northeast District United Methodist Women of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference will be holding their Christmas celebration at 10 a.m., Dec. 11.

The celebration will be held at the Northeast District Center with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. A Christmas dinner will be held at noon.

The center is located one mile east of Preston and U.S. Highway 75.

Chief sets direction for 1994

continued from page 1

penses incurred on this project and will make a claim to the Universities Research Association, Inc. for reimbursement. Currently, we are looking into investment opportunities with Conoco and Zebco, further stimulating economic growth.

The New Year offers much promise. Basic developmental activities underway are for:

- business investments;
- infrastructure upgrading;
- innovating the division of human development; and
- overhauling our health care system.

Progress in these areas will shape the future of our tribe.

In 1994, the primary mission of the executive branch will be to strengthen the family and community. Every department within the office of administration will focus on strengthening the family and com-

munity — two units which are the foundation upon which our nation is built.

Currently, we are undergoing reorganization of the executive branch. The reorganization will build a more efficient executive branch and will require continuous effort among elected tribal officials from here forward — so that we can meet the economic and social demands of our people.

As we approach the Christmas season, let us not forget our men and women who are serving in the armed services, especially those who are on foreign soil. Let us remember our elders — who maintain our culture, traditions, government and perpetuate our identity as Muscogee people.

My family and I wish you peace and happiness for the holiday season; may every citizen, especially the children, be blessed with all the joys of Christmas and every happiness in the New Year.

The 1994-95 Muscogee (Creek) National Council-elect

(I) denotes incumbent

Creek District

- Seat A — Earl Wheeler (I)
- Seat B — Leah Jack
- Seat C — Phyllis Warrington
- Seat D — Duke Harjo

Hughes-Seminole District

- Seat A — Dwayne Lowe (I)
- Seat B — Tim Fife
- Seat C — Darrell Coachman (I)
- Seat D — Thomas Yahola

McIntosh District

- Seat A — Tommy Newton (I)
- Seat B — Wilbur Gouge
- Seat C — Sandy McIntosh (I)
- Seat D — Yahola Townsend
- Seat E — Thomas McIntosh

Muskogee District

- Seat A — Helen Chupco (I)
- Seat B — Charlie Coker (I)
- Seat C — Frances Pease

Oklfuskee District

- Seat A — Mae Jackson (I)

Seat B — Bruce Smith

Seat C — Clyde Johnson (I)

Seat D — Wynema Roberts (I)

Okmulgee District

- Seat A — Dave Lewis
- Seat B — Anderson Hale
- Seat C — Charlie Litsey (I)
- Seat D — Jim Harjo (I)
- Seat E — David Nichols
- Seat F — A.D. Ellis (I)
- Seat G — Peggy Lyda

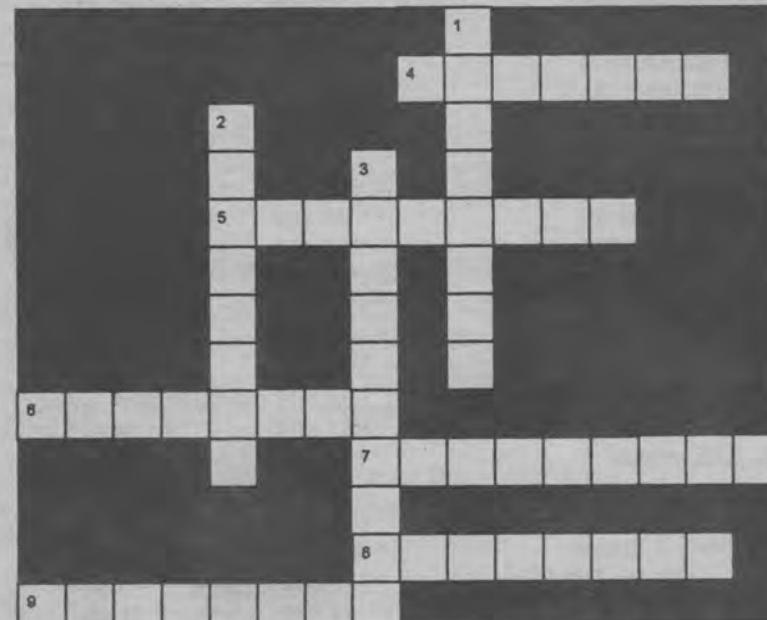
Tulsa District

- Seat A — Larry Bible (I)
- Seat B — Irene Cleghorn (I)
- Seat C — Edwin Moore
- Seat D — Steve Bruner (I)
- Seat E — Jess Kelley
- Seat F — Earl King
- Seat G — Perry Beaver

Wagoner-Rogers-Mayes District

- Seat A — Richard Berryhill (I)
- Seat B — Barbara Gillespie

Mvskoke crossword puzzle



Find the Mvskoke word for the following:

Aklatkv (down)

1. bird
2. skunk
3. wind

Vwelepke (across)

4. fox
5. bear
6. deer
7. alligator
8. tiger
9. raccoon

ANSWERS:
1. wotkville; 2. kohvilkve; 3. vlpvilkve; 4. quvilkve; 5. noloksvilke; 6. covilkve; 7. vlpvilkve; 8. kvvilkve; 9. wotkville